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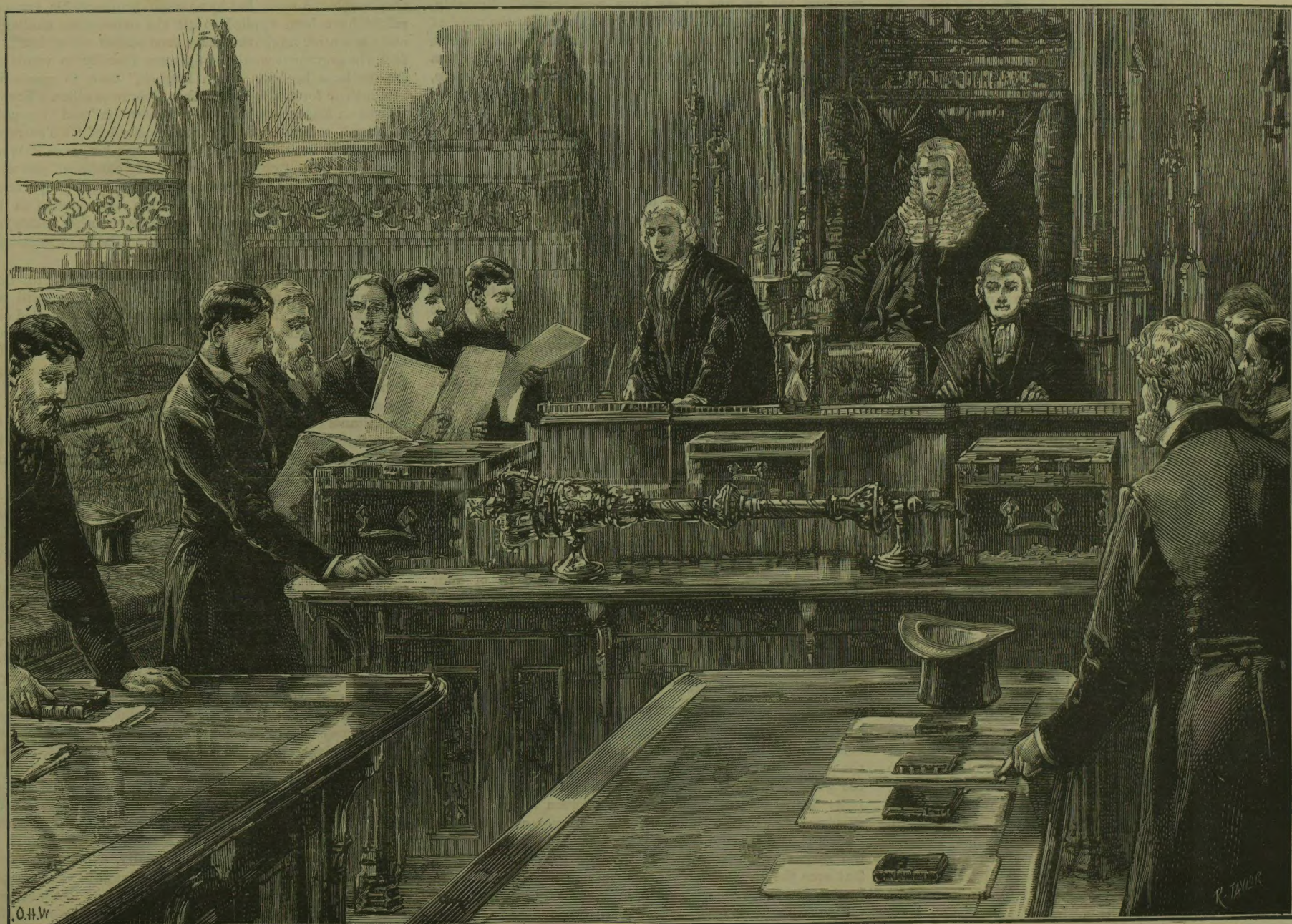


LORD CURZON, M.P. FOR SOUTH BUCKS.



MR. W. H. HOULDSWORTH, M.P. FOR NORTH-WEST MANCHESTER.

MOVER AND SECONDER OF THE ADDRESS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.



MEMBERS TAKING THE OATH.

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.



The forms and ceremonies which mark the election of a Speaker of the House of Commons have remained almost unchanged throughout the various revolutions and reforms to which Parliamentary Government has been subjected. In bygone days, however, the opportunity offered was not always thrown away by a Speaker who wished to lecture his Sovereign. Charles II. was peculiarly liable to this sort of "Diversion of Purley"; and it is, therefore, not surprising to find that when Sir Job Charlton, elected Speaker in 1672, was content to dismiss his sense of his obligations to the House in almost as few words as Mr. Peel did last week, the King desired the Lord Chancellor to reply as follows:—"The King's Majesty hath heard and well weighed your short and eloquent oration; and, in the first place, approves that you have, with so much advantage, introduced a shorter way of speaking on this occasion." The example set by Sir Job Charlton has commended itself to his successors in the chair.

In the columns of a contemporary, "An Outsider," not altogether unrecognisable, has been urging again his suggestions for the reform of the Royal Academy. His first aim is to induce Academicians and Associates to reduce the number of their exhibits, and to offer to one another, as well as to outsiders, a more equitable division of wall-space "on the line." We have before now expressed our own views on this point, and cannot doubt that every artist, no matter how distinguished, would be able to decide which were his two best pictures of the year, and would doubtless offer them for exhibition at Burlington House. The real difficulties must be sought for elsewhere. Academicians, especially those who devote themselves to portrait-painting, know very well that their sitters are so eager to have their faces seen on the walls of the Academy Exhibition that the guarantee of publicity which an Academician's right conveys is one of the attractions offered to a large class of art-patrons. If "An Outsider" wishes to reform this, and by a contre-coup recall some of our most distinguished painters from the pursuit of portrait-painting, he would do well to devote his time to agitating for a reform after the French model, and in favour of a hanging committee elected wholly or in part by the general suffrages of the artists exhibiting.

So radical a reform, however, cannot be looked for at once; but there is one small departure from ordinary custom which Sir Frederick Leighton might be disposed to consider favourably. This is the postponement this year for one week of the opening of the Royal Academy Exhibition. By an anomaly which happens about once in a century, Easter falls this year on its latest possible date (April 25). As a natural consequence, "Varnishing Day" will fall on the Bank Holiday, when the Artist Corps will probably be manœuvring at Brighton or elsewhere. Royalty will, in all probability, be absent on Thursday—the private view on Friday will be deprived of the presence of the "lions" of the season—and the banquet on Saturday will probably lose not a few of those political personages who give lustre to this annual gathering; because, after a long and probably exciting Session, statesmen of all parties will be anxious for some repose. The week's postponement would, moreover, if given to the artists after so much dull weather, be an appreciable boon; but if some Median law prevents this relaxation, the additional time placed at the disposal of the Hanging Committee might be turned to some practical uses. We hope the President and Council of the Royal Academy will give this matter consideration.

Nothing is more curious than the association of ideas by which thoughts are involuntarily and unconsciously suggested to the mind. They are usually quite untraceable, but occasionally the process is revealed. Bulwer was unquestionably the last writer from whom Thackeray would knowingly have borrowed anything, but he could not escape obligation for a name. In the Deuceace chapters of the "Yellowplush Papers" the Hon. Algernon's catastrophe is brought about by his infidelity to Lady Griffin. Why Griffin? Because Thackeray had been reading "The Wooing of Master Fox," in Bulwer's "Pilgrims of the Rhine," where the fox loses his tail by forsaking a real cat for an imaginary griffiness. In a poem recently republished in Maginn's Remains, mention is made of Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd's, "good grey eye." Grey, no doubt, but why good? Because Hogg had written, and Maginn had read, the ballad of "The Gude Grey Katt."

The "jolly dogs" who go horse-racing have had two bones thrown out to them to mumble latterly, just to keep them employed till the season begins. There has been the new "stand" (a sort of wing of the Grand Stand at Epsom), now nearly finished, to talk about; and there have been the "entries for the Spring Handicaps," in almost every one of which there has been a falling off. They are the Lincolnshire (24 fewer than last year); the City and Suburban (11 fewer); the Great Metropolitan (the same as last year, 39); the Northamptonshire Stakes (5 fewer); the Newmarket Handicap (29 fewer); the Chester Cup (10 fewer); the recently established Babraham Plate, at Newmarket (15 fewer); the more recently established Crawford Plate, at Newmarket (9 fewer); and the still more recently established Leicestershire Handicap (29 fewer). But the enemies of horse-racing must not flatter themselves from this that the Turf is doomed, or that the Millennium is at hand; it probably means no more than caprice or fashion, or love of variety, or more attractive metal elsewhere.

One of the most curious instances of a thought almost simultaneously occurring to two great writers, under circumstances rendering appropriation impossible, is to be found in a coincidence between Sarpi and Shakspeare. When the former, in October, 1608, was struck down by an assassin, with an ugly, ragged wound, he said, smilingly, "Agnosco stylum Curie Romanæ" (I recognise the style [or stiletto] of the Court of Rome)—which was by no means famous for elegant Latin. Had Shakspeare been familiar to him, he would undoubtedly have observed, "I think we do know the sweet Roman hand" ("Twelfth Night" act iii., sc. 4). "Twelfth Night," though produced in 1600, was not published until 1623, the year, as it happens, of Sarpi's death.

Many are the joys of the book-hunter. His pursuit is so alluring that he forgets in one precious acquisition a score of disappointments. How he gloats over his first editions; his uncut copies; his Aldines, Elzevirs, and Caxtons; his illuminated MSS.; his early printed books on vellum! Even the bibliophile, however, is but mortal; and as he looks on his tenderly cherished possessions, what a twinge of pain it gives him to remember that they will one day find their way to the auction-room, and become the prey of other collectors! The sale of the Woodhull library has attracted considerable attention during the last fortnight, and the high prices show that the depression of trade has little if any influence on the purchasers of rare books. A romance of chivalry, dated 1525, which Mr. Woodhull bought in the same rooms for one guinea and a half in 1779, sold for £130; a Homer, which was knocked down in 1770 for fifteen guineas, sold last week for £200; and a book on pedigree, famous for its binding, but not in fine condition, which cost the original owner of the library twenty-three shillings, brought £62. Many other equally costly purchases were made, and it is consolatory, in these struggling days, to know that there is still some money left in the country to spend on luxuries.

An unpleasant feature of journalism has of late been forced prominently on the reader's attention. A statement with regard to some statesman or public character is given upon slight authority, or upon no authority whatever, and, unless it be promptly denied, is accepted as true. It is surely intolerable that prominent men should have their tempers irritated by the publication of flying rumours, which, when examined, disappear like air bubbles. The latest statement of this kind, made by a religious newspaper, that Lord Salisbury would promote no one to the see of Manchester who was not a High Churchman and pronounced Ritualist, has been significantly contradicted by the nomination of Dr. Moorhouse, who, as Bishop of Melbourne, is said, like the late Dr. Fraser, to have won golden opinions from Nonconformists as well as from Episcopalians.

"If," wrote Sir Arthur Helps, "a man were to read a hundred great authors, he would, I suspect, have heard what mankind has yet had to say upon most things." Probably, though he did not allude to it, this passage was in the mind of Sir John Lubbock when he expressed the wish that someone would recommend a hundred good books. The names of a hundred authors would give the literary guide a wider scope, since first-rate writers are generally prolific, and cannot be appreciated by a single volume. How could we judge of Shakspeare by one play, although that play were "Hamlet"? or of Scott by one novel, although that novel were "The Antiquary"? It may be affirmed, however, that no man or body of men can choose with unanimity and with certainty of discrimination a hundred authors entitled to be called the best. We can say, without question, that Homer, Dante, Virgil, and Milton, that Shakspeare, Cervantes, and Goethe, will be among the number; but after twelve or twenty great names have been mentioned, the difficulty of choice becomes insuperable. Sir John Lubbock's own list is a proof of this. He leaves out books which some readers rank with the choicest works of literature, and inserts a few volumes which they will probably deem only worthy of a place on the topmost shelves of the library. In literature, as in art, there is ample scope for diversity of opinion, and it is, perhaps, well that there should be.

There is a fine example of the figure of speech denominated anti-climax in the oration of General Butler, as reported by himself to the Fort Fisher Committee, to a delinquent Army chaplain ("a sort of actor-chaplain, who comments upon Shakspeare; and he is a very good actor, too!"), who "had gone to New York to superintend the printing of a book which Van Nostrand and Co. are printing for General Gillmore." "Do you mean to say," said the General, "that you, a minister of Jesus Christ, having charge of all the souls of your regiment, left them, in the face of the enemy, to go off on a private enterprise in this way, remaining away four months, while you are drawing pay from the United States?" This is almost equal to the Irish Judge's objurgation of the ill-conditioned man in court:—"I see you there, standing like a wild beast, with your hat on!"

Organisers of fancy bazaars have at their fingers' ends many "sells" by which to entrap the charitable shilling from the pocket of the inexperienced visitor. A favourite hoax is the great exhibition, wherein "a cherry-coloured cat and a rose-coloured pigeon," "the meeting between Wellington and Blucher," &c., are to be shown. The former consists of a black cat and a white pigeon, the latter of two odd boots of the shapes respectively called after the great commanders. But even the most subtle of the humorous showmen who work with a good object have been outdone by the proprietor of an inclosed barrow, who, at Richmond, on Saturday evening, exhibited for a penny a peep "a monster fish, 107 years old, just caught." It was a carp, weighing about eight pounds, which had been found dead in the ice of one of the ponds in Richmond Park.

In his interesting work "London Labour and London Poor"—in many respects, not applicable to the present time—Mr. Mayhew points out that there were few artisans amongst the Jews. They did not, he said, embark in such trades as bricklaying, carpentering, or other occupations, where regular scale wages were paid, preferring fancy work, skilled labour, and even uncertain and humble trading. This state of things would seem to have been altered, as there now exists, in the neighbourhood of Aldgate, a Jewish Working Men's Institute and Club, numbering fifteen hundred members. Energetically managed, according to the custom of the Hebrew race, the institute has been given, on several occasions, an entertainment by leading actors and actresses—Mrs. Bernard Beere, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Beerbohm Tree having, in previous years, delighted an assembly of Jewish working men with recitations and songs at their own hall. On Sunday next, there will be a repetition of the festivity, when Miss Kate Munroe, Mr. Mervyn, Mr. Paulton, Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. F. Wyatt, and several others have kindly volunteered their services. Miss Kate Munroe, will recite a piece of her own composition. When we consider the disadvantages under which the persecuted nation laboured, even within the memory of man, and observe the advance towards not merely recognition but universal respect which it has made, we must give great credit not only to the humanity and liberality of the age, but also to earnest organisers who, like the guiding powers of the Jewish Working Men's Institute, have worn down prejudice, and established a popularity for themselves and for their co-religionists.

Are future generations of our Australian fellow-subjects to be distinguished by remarkable length of leg and shortness of arm? The question is raised by the *Daily News'* interesting account of Louise Michel's New Caledonian cats, which, after some generations have lived upon the island, are found to be appreciably shorter in the fore-legs and longer in the hind-legs than European pussies. They are evidently developing into kangaroos. The theory is further confirmed by the extraordinary agility with which Australian Bishops are observed to bound from Melbourne to Manchester, leaping over the heads of Deans, Canons, and a crowd of other dignitaries.

Some "learned Thebans" have lately been quarrelling in the newspapers over the grammatical propriety of using "chickens," "kittens," "cherubims," "seraphims," "folks," and so on. One of the disputants thinks to settle matters by quoting Shakspeare (who can hardly be accepted as a dry, grammatical authority, any more than as historical or geographical, having taken a position above all grammar, history, and geography) on behalf of his "chickens"; and, at the end of his letter, defends "cherubims" and "seraphims" on the ground that it has pleased the English people for centuries to make the words "cherubim" and "seraphim" singular, and to pluralise them *à l'Anglaise* with an "s." Surely that rough-and-ready, but by no means unreasonable, argument might have been applied to all the expressions challenged, and the matter might thus have been settled out of hand. In fact, the argument would apply more forcibly to words that are, or have become, "plain English," than to words that retain their foreign form, whether Hebrew or other. You may prevail on English people to use "cherubim" and "seraphim" as plural, to write "à l'outrance" instead of "à l'outrance," "chaperon" for "chaperone," and so on; but, even if it were correct to write "chicken" instead of "chickens," you would have about as much chance of making the English people retrace their grammatical steps and reform their usage in that respect as Dr. Freeman has of imposing upon his countrymen his "Battle of Senlac" instead of their "Battle of Hastings."

The Samoan Islands—which, by-the-way, lie in a direct line from San Francisco to Australia, and therefore will be of more importance than at present should the projected canal through the Isthmus of Panama ever be completed—were at one time likely to become a Mormon settlement. Brigham Young tried to negotiate for their purchase, intending to remove thence all his disciples from Salt Lake City. His emissaries, however, failed in their mission, owing to the inhabitants of the islands being such stanch Christians that they threatened to reply to the flattering offer made them with their rifles, weapons with which they are well armed, and which they know perfectly how to use.

"Card-sharping" on the railway, in France, seems to be conducted in a spirit as sanguinary as that which distinguishes "moonlighting" in a certain portion of the (at present) United Kingdom; if, indeed, it be true that the poor Prefect of the Eure fell a victim to the vengeance of card-sharpers, infuriated by the zeal and energy with which he endeavoured to stop their "industry." It looks as if the French card-sharpers had regarded the unfortunate Prefect as a tyrant, who interfered with the liberty of the subject. As a general rule in civilised countries, the gentry who choose card-sharping or similar law-breaking as a profession seem to bear no malice against a man for simply doing his duty, however severe a view he may take of it; they rather appear to consider themselves to blame, when they are caught, for not having been more "fly." Nobody should be surprised to learn that the tragedy in which M. Barrême lost his life arose out of circumstances with which his professional activity had not everything to do. Nevertheless, it is stated that the poor gentleman had been warned not to make himself so officious, if he valued his life; and that he, naturally, as a brave French magistrate, as a Frenchman in fact, laughed the threats to scorn. In any case, the terrible incident is likely to make travellers on French railways very shy of fellow-travellers who produce cards; the card-sharping industry will probably receive damage rather than advantage from it; and the card-sharpers will have more reason to curse than to bless the bloodthirsty violence of their reputed avenger.



THE RIGHT HON. ARTHUR WELLESLEY PEEL, M.P.,
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On the retirement, early in the Session of 1884, of the Right Hon. Sir Henry Brand, G.C.B., who had been Speaker of the House of Commons in the Parliament then sitting, Mr. Arthur Wellesley Peel, M.P. for the borough of Warwick, was unanimously elected his successor. This took place on Feb. 26, 1884, on the nomination of Mr. S. Whitbread, M.P. for Belford, seconded by Mr. W. Rathbone, M.P. for Carnarvonshire, and supported by Mr. Gladstone, Prime Minister and Leader of the House, and by Sir Stafford Northcote, Leader of the Opposition. Mr. A. W. Peel is the youngest of five sons of the great Sir Robert Peel, Bart., Prime Minister in 1834 and from 1841 to 1846, by his wife, Julia, daughter of General Sir John Floyd. His elder brothers were the present Sir Robert Peel, M.P., who

succeeded to the baronetcy in 1850, and who was born in 1822; secondly, Sir Frederick Peel, K.C.M.G., who was Under-Secretary for the Colonial and War Departments, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, and Chief Railway Commissioner, born in 1829; thirdly, the late Sir William Peel, K.C.B., Captain in the Royal Navy, the gallant commander of the Naval Brigade in the Crimea and at Lucknow, who was born in 1824, and died while on active service in 1858; fourthly, Captain John Floyd Peel, of the Scots Fusilier Guards, born in 1827. Mr. Arthur Peel was born on Aug. 3, 1829; was educated at Eton and at Balliol College, Oxford, where he took the degree of B.A. in 1852, and was second-class in the mathematical school; was a student of law at the Inner Temple, but was not called to

the Bar; was a candidate for the representation of Coventry in 1863, without success, but in 1865 was elected for Warwick; and held under Mr. Gladstone's first Government the offices, successively, of Secretary to the Poor Law Board, from December, 1868, to January, 1871; Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, until August, 1873; and Secretary to the Treasury from that date to February, 1874. Under Mr. Gladstone's second Government, he was Under-Secretary of the Home Department from April to December, 1880. He married, in 1862, Adelaide, eldest surviving daughter of Mr. W. Stratford Dugdale, of Merivale Hall, and Blyth Hall, Warwickshire, and has four sons and three daughters.

The re-election of Mr. Peel to the Speakership, on Tuesday, the 12th inst., was the first business of the New House of Commons. He was nominated by a member of the Conservative Party, the Right Hon. Sir John Robert Mowbray, M.P. for the University of Oxford, and seconded by the Right Hon. John Bright, M.P. for Birmingham. The leaders of the two great opposing parties in the House, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Gladstone, joined in offering congratulations to the Speaker upon his fresh election, and commendations of his past conduct in that office.

Our portrait of the Speaker is from a photograph which was taken by Messrs. J. Russell and Sons, of Brompton-road, South Kensington.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

THE ROYAL CEREMONIAL.

The affectionate loyalty of the people to her Majesty and the members of the Royal family is ever heartily roused by a bright regal procession such as that which was designed to impart brilliancy to the formal opening of Parliament by the Queen on Thursday afternoon. Comparatively rare though they are nowadays, these welcome revivals of courtly pageants are not unfamiliar in their most salient features, Royal masters of the ceremonies being strongly attached to precedent. The formidable assemblage of police to keep the roadway clear from Buckingham Palace through the Mall of St. James's Park and Whitehall, past Westminster Abbey to the Peers' entrance to the House of Lords; the cheering and admiring crowds lining the route of the Sovereign; the splendid escort of the Royal Horse Guards, and the succession of gay carriages conveying the Prince and Princess of Wales and the other Princes and Princesses, make up an impressive spectacle worthily crowned by the Queen herself in the handsome state chariot drawn by eight cream-coloured horses, and accompanied by the usual field officers' escort. When, amid renewed cheering from the Westminster boys and the uncovering of the privileged spectators assembled opposite Poets' Corner, the Queen's carriage stops at the Peers' porch for her Majesty to alight, and the mounted band of the Life Guards, glittering in uniforms of cloth of gold, play with martial fervour the National Anthem, he must, indeed, be an unimaginative observer who is not impressed with the Imperial grandeur of the occasion.

Within the noble Chamber of Peers, resplendent with gilding and frescoes and painted windows, the scene when the Queen opens Parliament in person is magnificent in the extreme. Some time before the hour fixed for the arrival of her Majesty, noblemen in their scarlet and ermine cloaks and Peeresses aglow with jewels and the most charming of state costumes, file into the House of Lords, and take their allotted seats on the benches on each side the table. The balconies grow brilliant with beauty. Presently, the arrival of the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal family draws attention to the Throne, his Royal Highness occupying the chair to the right of the Throne itself, and her Royal Highness, ever the admired of all admirers, in the most tasteful of Court costumes, taking her seat on the woolsack. Superb as the spectacle is when the Queen, accompanied to the Throne by the Sword-bearer and the high officers of State, receives the silent homage of the illustrious gathering; and, historically interesting as it may be to hear the Royal Speech read by the Lord Chancellor to the Lords and Commons present, perhaps the most moving incident of the whole ceremony is that towards the close, when her Majesty rises and kisses the Princess of Wales, and then receives the salute of the Prince prior to quitting the House. Such, in brief, is the programme observed at the opening of Parliament by the Queen. The beneficent reign of her Majesty has lasted for well-nigh fifty years; and it is a source of general gratification that the Queen should be strong enough to make a long journey in inclement weather to inaugurate the eleventh Parliament of her reign.

MEMBERS TAKING THE OATHS.

When the newly-elected Speaker returns from the House of Lords, to inform the House of Commons that the Queen has approved his election, he at once reminds members that the first thing is to take and subscribe the oath by law required. The Speaker sets the example, and, standing upon the upper step of the chair, solemnly takes and subscribes the oath. Next he signs the roll of Parliament, and, retiring for a few moments, returns in the full dress of the Speaker. Meanwhile, two tables are brought in by the attendants. Copies of the oath and the Bible are distributed on the tables. The first to take the oath and sign the roll, after the Speaker, are the mover and seconder of the motion for his election. Then the Clerk at the table proceeds to call upon members in alphabetical order of their constituencies, beginning with the counties, and soon the tables are crowded. Five or six members take hold of a copy of the Bible, and the Clerk of the House, standing at the head of the table, reads the oath aloud, at the conclusion of which all these members kiss the book. They are then conducted by the Clerk to the Speaker, each one being introduced by name. The Speaker shakes hands with them, another batch come up to the table, and so hour after hour the ceremony proceeds. It continues from day to day. No record is kept of members who had been sworn in; when a member of a new Parliament has taken his seat, it must be assumed that he had taken the oath, and no one has a right to question him. With members returned at bye-elections, the ceremony is more isolated, and therefore more notable, as was shown in the various attempts made by Mr. Bradlaugh to take the oath. There is a resolution, dated Feb. 23, 1868, which to this day controls this matter. It directs that new members are to walk up the floor of the House between two members, making their obeisance as they go, "that they may be the better known to the House." Members can be furnished with certificates that their return has been certified by the Clerk of the Crown to the Clerk of the House; but at the meeting of the House after a general election, this is taken for granted. In individual cases, after a bye-election, every member returned to Parliament on coming to the table to be sworn must produce his certificate. After the swearing-in of members has been completed, business proceeds in due course.

THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

We are indebted further to Captain Peacocke, R.E., Assistant Commissioner for the delineation of the Afghan Boundary with the Russian dominions, who has sent us, through Mr. Simpson, our Special Artist, sketches of the more recent proceedings. The scene represented in his sketch now published is that which took place at Herat on Oct. 19, when Major Holdich, R.E., and Captain Peacocke completed their final inspection of the new fortifications of that city. On the same day, the guns presented by the Government of India to the Ameer of Afghanistan, for the defence of Herat, arrived there, soon after the reception of a large number of rifles and store of ammunition from Cabul. It made a great impression on the minds of all classes of the Herat people, not the less, we are told, for the fact that, by an unfortunate accident, two or three men had been run over by the guns and killed on the road. Thousands of the citizens left the bazaars that day, and thronged out of the gates to meet the guns from India, and to accompany the escort of soldiers in their last march from the Pul-i-Mahian, the bridge over the Heri-Rud on the Candahar road. The scene outside the Candahar gate of Herat, where the guns, eighteen-pounders, were placed in line for the British officers to inspect them, with an escort of the 11th Bengal Lancers, is shown in our illustration. The Afghan captain of the guns, on foot, is delivering his report to Major Holdich, the leading officer, on horseback; the other mounted British officers are Major Meiklejohn, commanding the escort, Captain Peacocke, Captain Drummond, and Mr. Meek.

ROYAL OPENING OF THE MERSEY TUNNEL.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Princes Albert Victor and George, met with a hearty greeting at Chester and at Eaton Hall on Tuesday; and received an enthusiastic welcome in Liverpool on Wednesday, when the Prince and his sons visited that port with the Duke and Duchess of Westminster and suite, in order that his Royal Highness might declare the Mersey Railway Tunnel open. The Prince and his party arrived at Birkenhead at 12.10, and were received by Mr. Cecil Raikes and the other directors of the company, the Mayor, and the Corporation. The Volunteer guards of honour presented arms, bands played the National Anthem, and the crowds cheered. Addresses were presented by the Mersey Railway Company and Birkenhead Corporation. To these the Prince replied that it gave him sincere pleasure to be associated with any undertaking to advance the welfare and convenience of the community. And this he regarded as a work of national importance, not only completing the railway system of the district and providing easy communication between Liverpool and Birkenhead, but as calculated to enhance the prosperity of all the neighbouring commercial centres, and add to the employment of millions of the people. The Princess desired him to express her regret that her physician's orders prevented her being present. The Royal party then re-entered the train and proceeded to Hamilton-square Station. They there inspected the hydraulic lifts and ventilating fans, and then continued their journey through the tunnel to Liverpool. The Liverpool Townhall, where the Royal party was driven after opening the tunnel, was elaborately draped and decorated. The address of the Corporation was presented to the Prince in the council-chamber; and the Princes were then entertained at lunch in the ball-room. At St. George's Hall a ball was given by the Mayor and Mayoress.

NEW BOOKS.

Our century is growing old, and it is strange to think that all the changes it has witnessed may have taken place in a single lifetime. Those who wish to recall what it was in its early years may be recommended to read *The Dawn of the Nineteenth Century in England: A Social Sketch of the Time*, by John Ashton. 2 vols. (Fisher Unwin). Not the least attractive features of the book are the illustrations, 116 in number, drawn by the author, from contemporary engravings; and by the help of these and of the letterpress, we are brought face to face with a period so unlike our own that it is difficult to believe we stand so near to it in point of time. Let us glance at a few of the many signs of change recorded by Mr. Ashton, some of them obvious enough, while others have been disinterred from newspapers, after much painful research. What science has done for us, we know by every-day experience. The whole face of the country and of society has been changed by railroads, which were unknown in the early years of the century; so, too, was gas; and many persons, not very old either, can remember the tinder-box, which was in use before lucifers were invented. Great was the prosperity of farmers; but with bread at 2s. 6d. a quarter, a heavy tax on tea, and coals at 5s. a chaldron, it was a hard time for the poor. Meat, however, was cheaper than it is at present, beer was purer, and house-rent, of course, far lower. If the excitement of travel in those days was great, so also was its costliness, as well as danger from bad roads and from highwaymen. People made their wills before leaving Scotland for London; rich people could go "post"; but poorer folk had to travel by public waggons; and, in 1802, it took a Londoner twenty-four hours to reach Tonbridge Wells by this conveyance. The age was cruel and it was coarse, and the sympathy now felt for every kind of suffering was comparatively unknown. Cock-fighting was a familiar amusement; so was bull-baiting; so was prize-fighting. Men were impressed, without mercy, for the King's service—as cruel an action, in some instances, as it is possible to conceive. The pillory was a frequent punishment; and small must have been the street traffic when this machine was erected at Charing-cross and in the Haymarket. Whipping, also, was performed in public; and in 1800 a certain John Butler was whipped from Whitechapel "to the further end of Mile-end Town," a distance of two miles, for receiving some trusses of hay, knowing them to have been stolen. In 1810, there were 50,000 French prisoners in England; in the same year the old custom of driving a stake through the body of a suicide was still in vogue. Executions for the most trifling offences were as common in those days as in Samuel Rogers' boyhood, when he saw a whole cartful of young girls on their way to be executed at Tyburn. Common, too, were duels; and, as Mr. Ashton observes, it is difficult to pick up a newspaper of the time and not find one recorded. On the whole, the "good old times" of eighty years since were not so good that we need wish them back. It must not be supposed, however, that the picture presented by Mr. Ashton is wholly a gloomy one. There was plenty of rollicking fun in those days, plenty of splendid courage and patriotism, and more leisure to enjoy life than we possess, as the reader will find upon consulting these suggestive and entertaining volumes.

Sir Walter Scott's edition of Dryden's works was published in 1808, in eighteen volumes, and reprinted in 1821. For more than sixty years, there has been no reissue; but a bold publisher and an able editor are now reprinting the original work in a form far more attractive than that in which it first appeared. *The Works of John Dryden, Illustrated with Notes and a Life of the Author*, by Sir Walter Scott, Bart., revised and corrected by George Saintsbury (Paterson), does infinite credit to all concerned in its publication. Of the poetical works, Vols. XI. and XII. are now before us. It is in his poems, and not in his dramas, which fill eight volumes of the edition, that we see the supreme art of Dryden. He flourished in the most licentious age of our literature, and pandered shamelessly to the taste of the town. It seems almost incredible in these days that comedies, like some of Dryden's, could have been placed upon the stage; and one of them, we know, was too filthy even for an age that applauded "The Country Wife" and "The Plain Dealer" of Wycherley. In his better moments, Dryden lamented the way in which he had prostituted his genius; but even his later and finer works are frequently injured by this fault. Indeed, he forgot too often the assertion of his friend, Lord Roscommon, that "Want of decency is want of sense." Happily, his great satires are uninjured in this way, and his prefaces and essays should be read by all students, for they are models of good English. In reading them, we sometimes find it difficult to believe that they belong to the seventeenth century, for Dryden, unlike many of his contemporaries, has the ease and method of a modern writer. And some of his confidences with the reader are charming. Indeed, it is impossible not to like Dryden, and the more we grow to like him the greater is one's regret that, to use his own words, he "profaned the heavenly gift of poesy." It has done as much to lower his own fame as to lessen the reader's pleasure.

Is it to make the contrast more painful that, in these dreary days of midwinter, Mr. Albert F. Sieveking gives us a volume full of summer and fragrance, called *The Praise of Gardens; a Prose Cento, Collected and in Part Englished*

(Elliot Stock)? It is a book to revive old memories and old delights. Once again, as we read, the air is scented with perfume, bees hum in the blossoms which open their eyes to the sunshine, and the dove coos in the fir-trees that make a dreamy shade on the skirts of the garden. Above, the sky is blue, save where a fleecy cloud flits across its surface; and, far below us, the clear river moves on swiftly and silently. What a blaze of colour! What a restful glade of greenest turf! What a scent of jasmine, honeysuckle, and roses! And what music in that girl's glad voice as she sings of youth and love! We live our life over again when we read of gardens, and forget for the moment how sorrow and hard work, and years that bring the inevitable yoke, have marred their beauty, or, rather, made us less capable of enjoying it. Yet, there is no pleasure more innocent or more lasting than that which gardens yield, and it is sad to think how the growth of a great city is curtailing, everywhere round London, the size of gardens, and lessening their fertility. Smoke has driven roses away from us, and many a lovely flower, that once bloomed freely in the near neighbourhood of the city, now hangs its head and dies. Well, in this dainty volume we can, at all events, read of them as they once existed in London, and still exist in the rural homes of Englishmen. Open where the reader may, he will find some graceful passage on the delights which the garden yields. The compiler, who has done his work extremely well, should put together a companion volume from the English poets. Without going abroad for illustrations, they would supply ample materials for a book like this. Landscape gardening is pre-eminently an English art, and how well our poets have appreciated its beauty may be seen through all the ages that separate Chaucer from Lord Tennyson.

"Who loves Nature like an Englishman?" exclaims Mr. Richard Jefferies; and every Englishman who loves it may be advised to read the pleasant papers he has collected under the title of *The Open Air* (Chatto and Windus). Some of them will be known already, since they have done duty in magazines; but they will bear reading a second time, or a third, for the author does not, to use Dryden's phrase, see Nature "through the spectacles of books," but knows her at first hand in the beauty of her forms, the glory of her colours, and the joyousness of her sounds. Well can he talk about the country delights of which the town liver knows little; and even a fashionable watering-place like Brighton, where Nature, despite the sea, seems thrust aside in favour of fashion, gains under his hand a touch of picturesqueness. He notes the masts of the fishing-boats on the beach, the deep blue of the summer sky, "the many twinkling smile" of the sea, the atmosphere so full of light, and observes that the Brighton "glare" is one of its great recommendations. "There is no such glowing light elsewhere along the coast; these things are very local." Brighton has other charms, and sunshine brings human beauty with it. It is rather daring, perhaps, to assert, "There are more handsome women in Brighton than anywhere else in the world"; and "they are so common that . . . good-looking women who would be admired in other places pass by without notice." If there is exaggeration here, there is truth also; and we agree with Mr. Jefferies that, "whether Brighton grows handsome girls, or whether they flock there, drawn by instinct, or become lovely by staying there, is an inquiry too difficult to pursue." On the perils and annoyances of sea-bathing at Brighton the author dilates at large, and marvels at the courage shown by women on that most uncomfortable of shores. "Yet some people hesitate to give women the franchise! Actually a miserable privilege which any poor fool of a man may exercise." Altogether, "Good Dr. Brighton," as Thackeray called the health-giving town, receives generous treatment from the author. We like best, however, to meet him as a companion in woods and lanes, on the open heath, or by the side of the stream, when the brown leaves are falling in the forest, or when the first spring flowers fill the copse with beauty. Read the chapters headed "Wild Flowers," "The Pine Wood," "The Haunt of the Hare," and "Out of Doors in February," and you will understand Mr. Jefferies' special gift as a writer. When he describes men and women, his hand is less certain, and inclined somewhat to be coarse.

Poets have been more accustomed to celebrate courtship than marriage, but the home, too, has had its laureates; and under the heading *Lines and Lays for Wedding-Days*, by Mary Leasingham Dicken-Shortt (Eyre and Spottiswoode), a pretty little volume has been published, in which those who list may insert the marriages of their friends instead of their birthdays. The verses are well chosen, but not always appropriate to the names under which they appear. It is ludicrous to read under May 21, marriage day of Charles II.:

We dwell, a wedded pair,
Companions daily, often all day long;
Not wishing aught,
Beyond the allowance of our own fireside.

At a largely attended meeting of the constituency of Bala Independent College, on Tuesday, it was resolved to remove the college to Bangor, and to accept an offer of £1000 from Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., for that object.

On Tuesday evening the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained the members of the Court of Aldermen, the Sheriffs and Under Sheriffs, and the high officers of the Corporation at dinner, at the Mansion House.

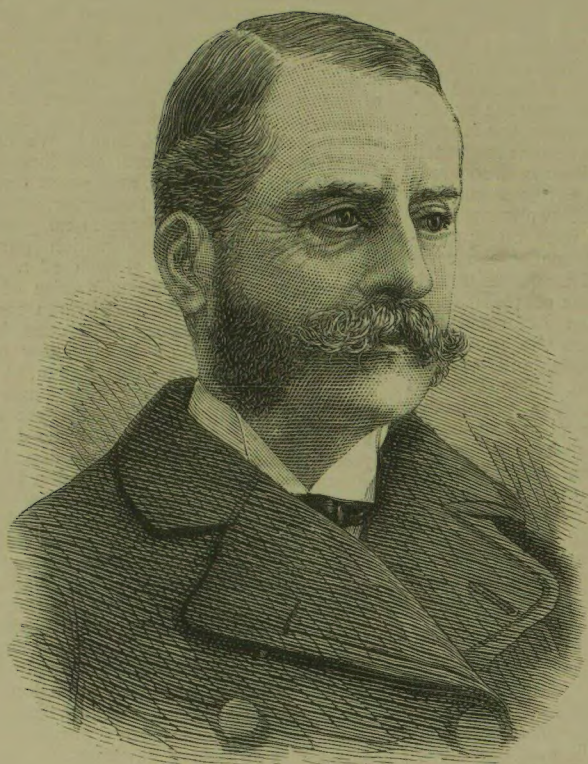
The annual conference of the miners of England, Scotland, and Wales was opened at Birmingham on Tuesday. Mr. T. Burt, M.P., the president, occupied the chair, and gave his address on Wednesday. The conference was continued until Friday, the delegates present representing 324,000 miners.

At a meeting of the Victoria (Philosophical) Institute, held on Monday evening, a paper on "Samoa Traditions" was read by the Rev. T. Powell, who, during a very long residence among the natives, has gathered from the keepers of the traditions all the early history of their race, including traditions of the Creation and Deluge.

A meeting of commanding officers of Volunteer Corps was held on Tuesday at the Horse Guards, to consider the question of holding a review at Easter. It was resolved to leave the matter in the hands of the Duke of Cambridge, to organise small reviews in several places, with marching columns.

The following change has been made in the arrangements at the Royal Institution before Easter:—Professor W. H. Flower, F.R.S., the Director of the Natural History Department of the British Museum, will give a discourse on Friday evening, Feb. 19, on "The Wings of Birds," instead of Professor W. K. Parker, F.R.S., on "Birds: their Structure, Classification, and Origin."

According to the Registrar-General's report, 2695 births and 1902 deaths were registered in London last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 182 below and the deaths 95 above the average numbers in the corresponding period of the last ten years. The deaths included 1 from smallpox, 51 from measles, 13 from scarlet fever, 22 from diphtheria, 193 from whooping-cough, and 12 from enteric fever.



THE DUKE OF ABERCORN.



THE EARL OF SCARBOROUGH.

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT: MOVER AND SECONDER OF THE ADDRESS IN THE LORDS.

MOVERS AND SECONDEES OF THE ADDRESS.

The Duke of Abercorn, who moved the Address of the House of Lords in reply to the Queen's Speech, is the Right Hon. Sir James Hamilton, second Duke of Abercorn, having lately succeeded to the Peerage, on the death of his father. The late Duke, raised to that exalted rank in 1868, having previously been Marquis of Abercorn, was a Knight of the Garter, and was twice Lord Lieutenant of Ireland—from July, 1866, to December, 1868, and from February, 1874, to December, 1876—in the Government of Lord Beaconsfield. He married Lady Louisa Russell, second daughter of the sixth Duke of Bedford. The present Duke was born in 1838; was educated at Christ Church College, Oxford; was M.P. for Donegal from 1860 to 1880; and was Lord of the Bedchamber in the household of the Prince of Wales. His residence is at Baron's Court, in county Tyrone.

The Earl of Scarborough, seconder of the Address in the House of Lords, is the Right Hon. Richard George Lumley, son of the late Mr. Frederick Lumley, who was nephew to the sixth Earl of Scarborough. Upon the death of his cousin, the eighth Earl, in 1856, Mr. Richard Lumley succeeded to the title. He was born at Tickhill Castle, Yorkshire, in 1813, his mother, Mrs. Lumley, being a daughter of the Right Rev. George De la Poer Beresford, Bishop of Kilmore.

The mover of the Address in the House of Commons, Viscount Curzon, is William Richard Penn Curzon-Howe, son of Earl Howe, descended from the famous Admiral Howe. He was born in 1861, was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and is a Lieutenant in the Leicestershire Yeomanry Cavalry. He married Lady Georgiana Churchill, a daughter of the sixth Duke of Marlborough. He has just been elected M.P. for the Southern Division of Buckinghamshire.

Mr. Henry William Houldsworth, M.P. for the North-West Division of the city of Manchester, is the seconder of the

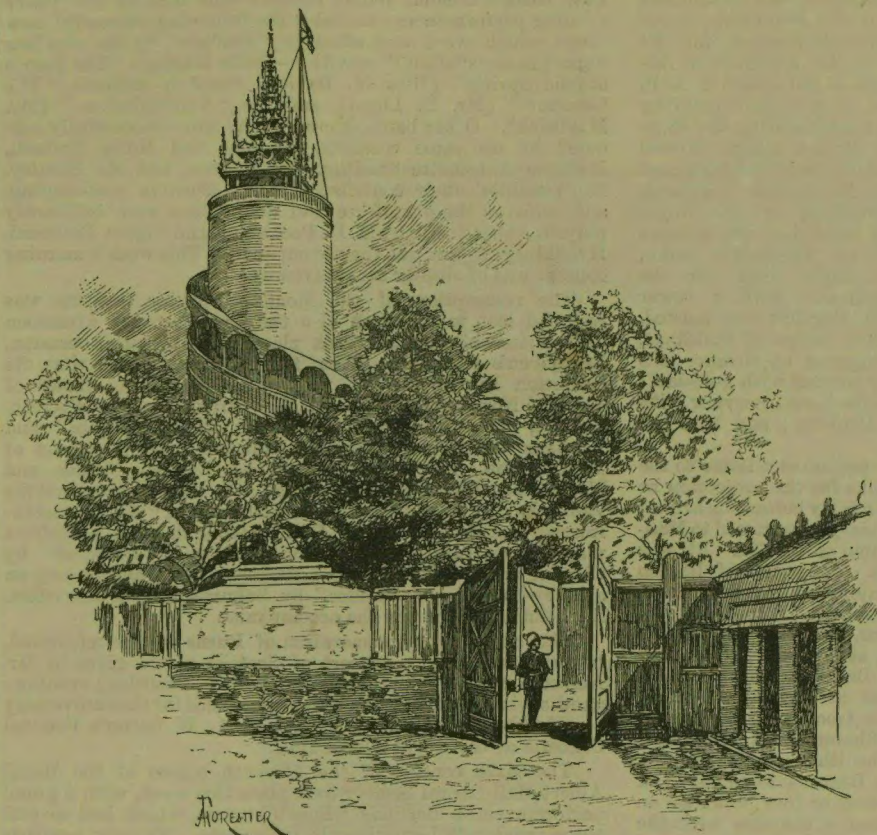
Address. He was born at Manchester in 1834, being son of the late Mr. Henry Houldsworth, cotton-spinner, and has been largely engaged in that business. He was educated at the University of St. Andrews. He was M.P. for Manchester from October, 1883, in the last Parliament, and is one of the Royal Commission of Inquiry on the Depression of Trade.

The third annual meeting of the German Teachers' Association was held last Saturday evening at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, Dr. W. Rolfe, president of the association, and governor to Prince Alfred of Edinburgh, presiding. The chairman stated that it was intended to publish a fortnightly magazine, and it was hoped that they would be able ere long to form a suitable library.—The Duchess of Connaught, the chief patroness of the Association of German Governesses, 16, Wyndham-place, Bryanston-square, has sent £15 towards the enlargement of the home.

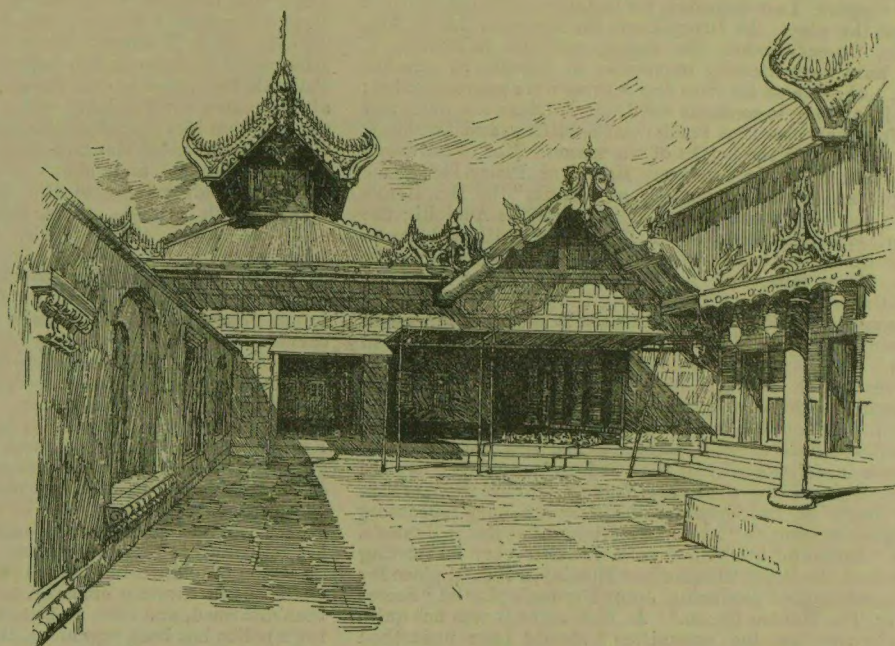


THE AFGHAN FRONTIER: ARRIVAL OF INDIAN GUNS AT HERAT.

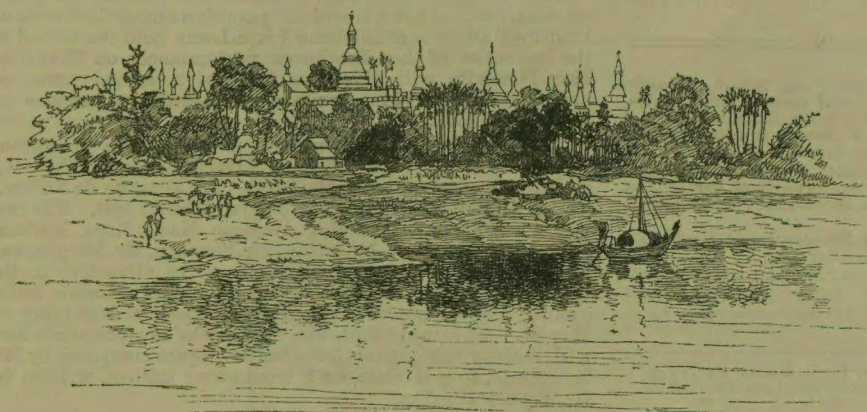
FROM A SKETCH BY CAPTAIN PEACOCKE, R.E., ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF THE AFGHAN BOUNDARY COMMISSION.



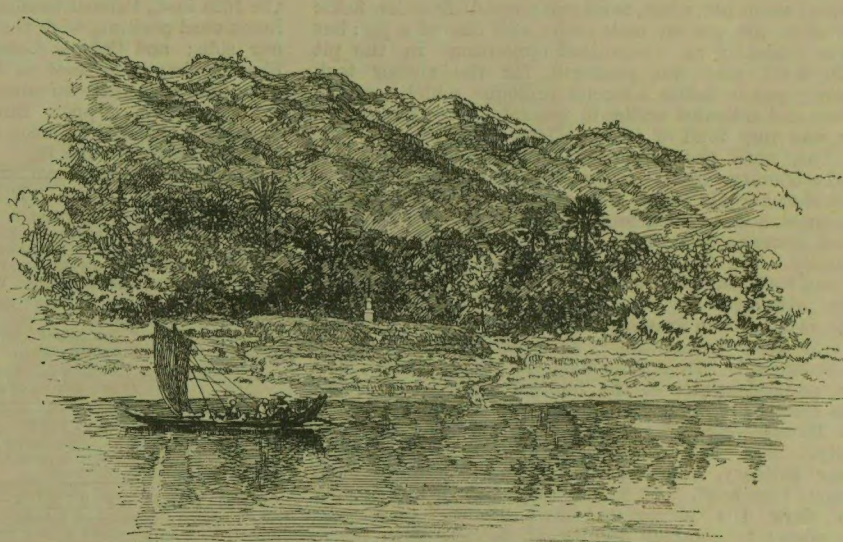
THE BRITISH FLAG INSIDE THE PALACE.



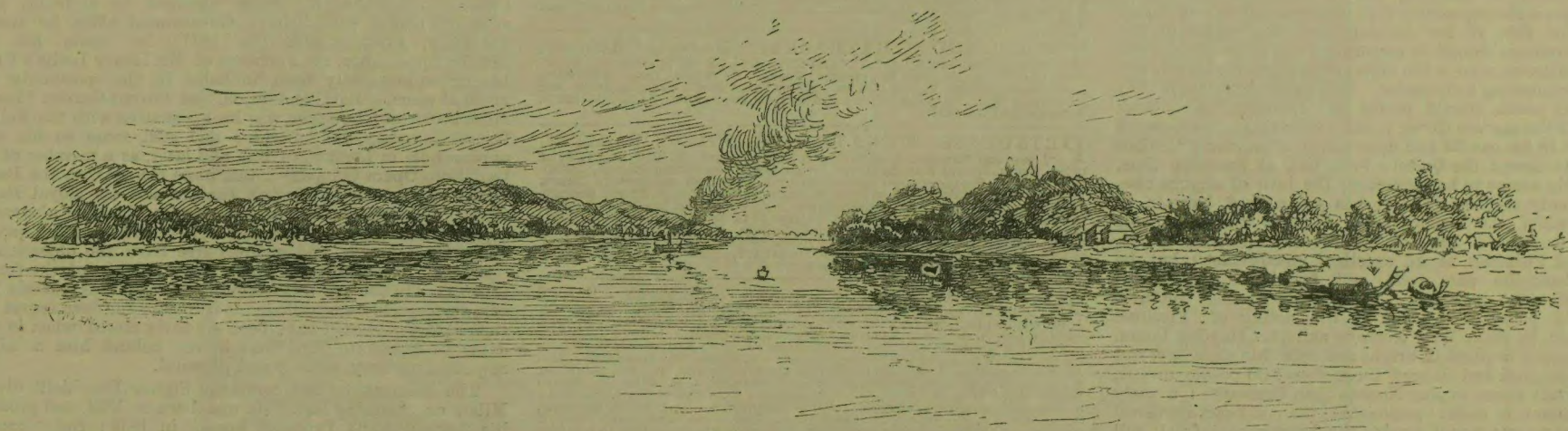
THE KING'S PRIVATE APARTMENTS IN THE PALACE, MANDALAY.



MALOON, BELOW MINHLA.



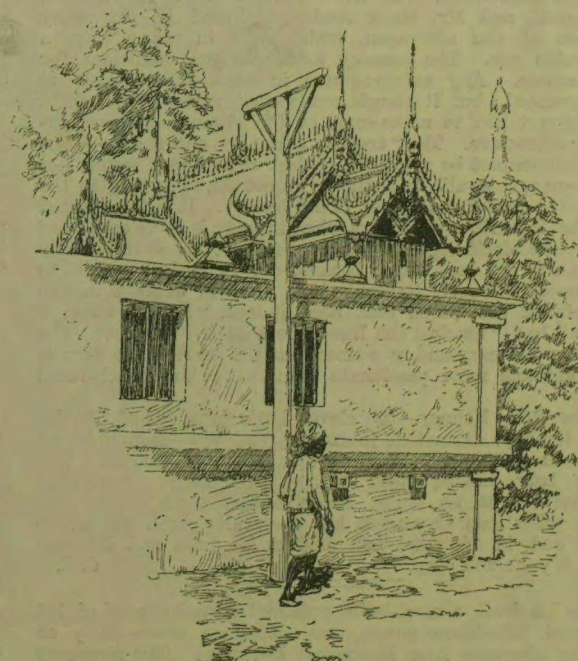
THE LATE BOUNDARY-MARK BETWEEN BRITISH AND UPPER BURMAH.



BOUNDARY BETWEEN BRITISH AND UPPER BURMAH—LEFT BANK.



THE SILVER FEEDING-BOWLS OF THE SACRED ELEPHANT.



KING THEEBAW'S GALLOWS.

THE PLAYHOUSES.

The weather may be cold, and the roads slippery; but hitherto managers have had little reason to complain of any want of public support. Last Saturday, for instance, was a phenomenal night at the play. At Drury-Lane, the Lyceum, the Gaiety, Adelphi, Covent-Garden, the Savoy, and the Alhambra, it would have been literally impossible to squeeze in another person. At all these theatres the receipts were unprecedented; and so it is likely to continue until the holidays are over, and long after that, now that Parliament is sitting, and London is fuller than it is in the height of the season. Not to have seen the processions of Mr. Augustus Harris at Drury-Lane; the beautiful and costly production of "Faust" by Mr. Henry Irving; the bright nautical melodrama at the Adelphi; the gay burlesque, with Miss Farren, Mr. Leslie, and David James in it, at the Gaiety; the Japanese opera at the Savoy; the juggler Cinqueville, and the innumerable circus stars, at Covent-Garden; or the "Two Maes," the "Blondin Donkey," and the military ballet, at the Alhambra, is to confess ignorance concerning the best things to be seen at the present hour in London. The future, also, is rich in promise. Mrs. Langtry is almost ready with Mr. Coghlan's new play, at the Prince's; Mr. Wyndham will this week produce a new rattling farce at the Criterion. The new Haymarket programme is not quite settled, though it would not astonish anyone to find Mrs. Bernard Beere back again in a strong play of the "Fedora" pattern. They are preparing a grand revival of Jules Verne's "Round the World in Eighty Days" at the Empire; and they are busy rehearsing the English version of "Antoinette Rigaud" at the St. James's.

The "Dramatic Students" gave another very interesting afternoon at the Court Theatre last Tuesday, a capital place for their experiment of producing John Dryden's play of "Secret Love; or, The Maiden Queen." At first sight it was not quite clear why the "reading committee" should have unearthed from the dusty recesses of Stuart dramatic literature a play that evidently required very judicious editing before it could be produced before an audience in the Victorian age. Nell Gwynne, as we are told, made an excellent Florimel. Old Pepps raved about her, when, to disguise herself from her fickle lover Celadon, she put on male attire, and danced a jig; but there was evidently an "organised opposition" in the pit when Dryden's play was produced, for the author took up his angry pen to indite a second prologue, which scarified the pittites and ridiculed critics in general. Nevertheless, his Majesty was very fond of "Secret Love"; he called it "his play"; but, until the Dramatic Students took it up, it remained a literary curiosity on our book-shelves. And yet it is a work that happily blends the severely serious and broadly comic interest, and, as such, commands the attention of young actors and actresses who, severally, adhere to grave pathos or light comedy. The Queen, in "Secret Love," with her proud bearing and tortured heart, who loves her handsome courtier, Philocles, although he is plighted to the pretty maid, Candiope, is a figure in drama quite as important and interesting as that other Queen, exactly similarly circumstanced, in Robert Browning's "In a Balcony." A young actress, Miss Webster, grand-daughter of the famous Benjamin Webster, who has been working well in an excellent school—the St. James's Theatre—created surprising interest as the Queen of Sicily. She has an excellent voice, an incisive and clear delivery, and she acted from her heart more than from her head. It is no easy task for a young girl to show the passionate heart beating under the Queen's robes; to combine dignity of bearing with severe mental anguish, or to create effect in those difficult scenes when the harassed Queen confides her desperate passion to a limp and inanimate waiting-maid. But Miss Webster showed unusual intelligence, and it is quite certain that the immense labour of studying such a character will not be wasted. This is the experience that young artists so very rarely get, and for this, if for nothing else, the system of the Dramatic Students should be encouraged. Unfortunately, the youthful Philocles, who is the object of the Queen's love, is not nearly so interesting a character. It is natural, no doubt, that an amorous youth should prefer the exquisite and tender Candiope to the mature Queen; but his hesitation is expressed by the poet in too candid and determined a manner. He does not want to accept the Queen's love, but, at the same time, he is terribly averse to her accepting the love of anyone else, and he is only satisfied that he has got a good bargain in Candiope when the noble Queen declares that she will remain "unmarried till her death." Mr. Bernard Gould, who played Philocles, is an excellent elocutionist; but he did not look the part well, and failed to attract the interest of the audience. The most popular features of the old play were found in the acting of Florimel and Celadon, by Miss Rose Norreys and Mr. Hayden Coffin. All their scenes resulted in bright and refreshing comedy, and they soon laughed and danced themselves into public favour. It is relatively easier to play Nerissa than Constance: a saucy maid-of-honour is easier personated than a heart-burdened Queen; but no one would grudge the honour that freely fell at the feet of Miss Norreys, who promises to be one of our best actresses in light comedy. Miss Byron (a daughter of the dead dramatist), Miss Alice Belmore, Miss Lilian Carr, Mr. Lovell, and Mr. Mark Ambient shared in the many successes of the afternoon, which was in many ways a memorable one. The scenery used was just sufficient for the purpose. Any extravagance in that direction is to be deprecated; but it struck many that more pains might have been taken to make some of the characters more personally attractive. The "tragedy queen" is out of date—Mrs. Crummles cannot be tolerated to-day. The poem would not suffer—nay, it would be distinctly improved, by giving to the Queen the pathetic lines of faded beauty. It is to be hoped that the day will never return when tragedy is to be explained with coarse black wigs and astoundingly severe attire. Lady Macbeth is not less tragic because she is made beautiful to look upon. Surely, Dryden's idea was to explain in the character of the Queen that here, indeed, "Decay's effacing fingers" had "touched the lines where Beauty lingers." The face may be weary and care-lined, but the heart of the woman is warmer and more passionate than that of any peach-faced maid!

Miss Rose Kenney—the clever little daughter of Charles Lamb Kenney, dramatist, journalist, and wit—announces an afternoon recital at the Marlborough Rooms on Jan. 27. The young lady, among other things, will recite Tennyson's "Guinevere" to an organ accompaniment, played by her sister. Miss Ada Cavendish has cheerfully given her assistance; and, in addition, both Isidore De Lara and Madame Edith Wynne will sing.

The Landrail, a steel-built gun and torpedo vessel of 785 tons and 1200-horse power, was launched successfully on Tuesday afternoon from Devonport Dockyard. The ceremony of naming was performed by Miss Alice Grant, daughter of the Admiral Superintendent. There are at the present moment more than a score of new war-vessels being built either in her Majesty's dockyards or in private yards by contract for the Government.

THE BURMAH EXPEDITION.

Our Special Artist, Mr. Melton Prior, furnishes several sketches of the late boundary, on the banks of the Irrawaddy, above Thyetmyo, between the province of British Burmah and the Upper Burmah territory, which was the kingdom of his Majesty King Theebaw. We are indebted to Captain S. A. E. Hickson, R.E., for a sketch reproduced in a large Engraving that fills two pages of our Supplement, representing the scene at the gates of Mandalay when the British troops entered that city, on Nov. 29, after the surrender; and to Lieutenant R. C. B. Haking, of the 2nd Battalion Hampshire Regiment, for sketches in and about the precincts of the Royal Palace, including those of the King's residence, the gallows upon which persons were hanged at Theebaw's order, and the huge silver bowls, 3 ft. high, used for the feeding of the famous White Elephant; with a tower of the Palace upon which the British flag has been hoisted. The King's private apartments are in a range of buildings, in an inner court, which have a gorgeous appearance, the carved wood of the front being entirely covered with gold-leaf; it was here that Colonel Sladen had a decisive interview with Theebaw and the Queen and Prime Minister; and here the Crown jewels were handed over.

The Europeans of Mandalay have presented a letter to the Kin Woon expressing their warm thanks for the protection he gave them during the excitement at Mandalay before the arrival of the British expedition. General Prendergast returned to Mandalay on the 10th inst., having left Bhamo on the 6th. All was quiet there and in the neighbourhood. The people of Bhamo are returning to their avocations. Major Cooke relieved Major Adamson of political charge on the 1st inst. The Woondouk continues to exercise official functions, but his troops have been disbanded, and sent to Mandalay, at his own request. A town police has been organised, and a British military force is left at Bhamo, under the command of Brigadier-General Norman. Until affairs settle down, the troops will be located in native houses and kyoungs in Bhamo, in a defensible position. The troops are remarkably healthy. At Sagaing, on the 10th inst., Colonel Gordon drove a Burmese force out of an entrenched position, with the loss of three or four wounded on our side; and Colonel Baker has had skirmishes with the Shans, thirty miles east of Mandalay. The official estimates at present anticipate an annual deficit of about twenty lakhs of rupees for Upper Burmah. The Commissioner, Mr. Bernard, urges a diminution of military expenditure; but even this would leave a deficit.

DEATHS.

On the 6th inst., at Clayton Villa, Clifton Park, Bristol, of acute pneumonia, Anna Maria Martha Knowlly, widow of Thomas John Knowlly, Esq., of Heysham Tower, Lancashire, and Hollybrook, Hants, and sister of the late Sir Peter Hesketh-Deeley, Bart., of Rossall Hall and Tulketh Hall, Lancashire, and Hill House, Windsor Forest, aged 77.

On the 10th inst., at 1, Dean's-yard, Westminster, Anne Mary Pemberton, the dearly-loved wife of William Henry Allen, formerly of Cardiff, and second daughter of the late Richard Thomas Howell, Esq., of Bryncaerau, Llanelly, Carmarthenshire, aged 39 years.

* The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

ANNO DOMINI, THE SEARCH FOR BEAUTY, and "The Chosen Five," by EDWIN LONG, R.A. These celebrated Pictures, with other Works, are ON VIEW at the GALLERY, 168, New Bond-street. Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORIS Last Great PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the DORIS GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street, with his other great Pictures. Ten to Six daily. 1s.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.—**FAUST**—EVERY EVENING, at a Quarter to Eight o'clock, **FAUST**, Mephistopheles, Mr. Irving; Martha, Mrs. Stirling; Margaret, Miss Ellen Terry. Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open from Ten to Five. Seats can always be booked at the Theatre, and for one month in advance; or by letter. Carriages at Eleven.

MR. IRVING begs to say, in answer to numerous letters that only a limited number of seats for the Lyceum Theatre are in the hands of Libraries. Seats can frequently be booked at the Box-office of the Theatre when not obtainable elsewhere.—**LYCEUM.**

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. RUSSELL and BASHFORD.—EVERY EVENING at Eight, **NADJEZDA**, by Maurice Barrymore. Messrs. Beerholm Tree, Barrymore, Mackintosh, Maurice, Forbes Dawson; Misses Lydia Foote, Georgina Drew, and Miss Emily Bell. Seats can be booked daily from Ten to Five. At 7.30, ROOM 70, No fees.—**HAYMARKET.**

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Mr. WILSON BARRETT, Lessee and Manager. Last Weeks (for the present). EVERY EVENING at Eight, the Successful Play, by Henry Arthur Jones and Wilson Barrett, **HOODMAN BLIND**. Produced under the sole direction of Mr. Wilson Barrett. Messrs. Wilson Barrett, Willard, Cooper, Price, Manning, Hudson, Fulton, Evans, Bernage, Elliott, Barrington, &c., and George Barrett; Miss Eastlake, Mesdames Huntley, Cooke, Clithrow, &c. Prices: Private Boxes, £1 1s. to £9 9s.; Stalls, 10s.; Dress Circle, 6s.; Upper Boxes, 3s.; Box-office, 9.30 to Five. Business Manager, Mr. John Cobbe. **MORNING PERFORMANCE OF HOODMAN BLIND EVERY SATURDAY** at Two. In active preparation, **THE LORD HARRY**, a New and Original romantic Play by Henry Arthur Jones and Wilson Barrett.

MR. FREDERICK BURGESS'S TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL DAY AND NIGHT MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC FETE. St. James's Grand Hall, NEXT TUESDAY AFTERNOON AND NIGHT, JAN. 26, upon which occasion two new, powerful, and unique Programmes will be presented, sustained by nearly all the most distinguished Dramatic Artists connected with the principal West-End Theatres, including Miss E. Farren, Miss Helen Barry, Miss Alice Atherton, Miss Constance Loseby, Mr. James Fernandez, Mr. Fred. Leslie, Mr. Harry Faulton, Mr. Frank Wyatt, Mr. Willie Edouin, Mr. J. M. Dallas, Mr. George Barrett, Mr. Walter Joyce, Mr. Lionel Brough, and Mr. Arthur Roberts. Places can be booked at Ambrose Austin's Universal Ticket Office, St. James's Hall, Faneuil, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Balcony, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Tickets can be secured by post, if stamped and directed envelope and post-office order or cheque is sent to Ambrose Austin, at St. James's Hall.

ST JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.
THE MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS' ENORMOUSLY SUCCESSFUL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME. EVERY NIGHT, at Eight, **MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY**, at Three also. The inimitable **ADISON** BOYS, late of the Savoy Theatre, will appear at every performance.—Faneuil, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Tickets and places at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall.

JAPAN IN LONDON.—Hyde Park. **DAILY**, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. **THE JAPANESE VILLAGE**, rebuilt on an elaborate scale. Performances Free, at Twelve, Three, and Eight, in the new Shibuya. Native and Military Bands. Admission, One Shilling. Wednesdays, Half-a-Crown; after Six, 1s. Originator and Managing Director, **TANAKA BUCHIROKAN.**

MONTE CARLO.—THE ADMINISTRATION OF MONTE CARLO, in its endeavour to diversify the brilliant and exceptional entertainments offered to the Cosmopolitan High Life frequenting the shores of the Mediterranean during the Winter Season 1885-6, has much pleasure in announcing the following remarkable representations, for which purpose Mr. Fabian has already engaged—

Mesdames Isaac,	Mesdames Rose Delaunay,
Galli-Marie,	Thullier-Lefloir,
Frank Duvernoy,	Noémie Vernon,
Mons. Bertin-Tauffenberg, &c.	

In JANUARY and APRIL will be PERFORMED:—
LA JOLIE PARFUMEUSE.
LA PETITE MARIEE.
LA MASQUETTE, &c.

In FEBRUARY and MARCH:—
LE ROI LA DIT.
LA MASQUETTE.
LES NOCES DE JEANNETTE.
LE TOREADOR, &c.

THE INTERNATIONAL PIGEON-SHOOTING AT MONACO, 1885-6.
GRAND INTERNATIONAL MEETING.
Friday and Saturday, Jan. 22 and 23: Grand Prix du Casino. An object of Art of 5000f. and 20,000f.
Monday, Jan. 25: Prix de Monte Carlo (Grand Handicap). An object of Art and 3000f.
Thursday, Jan. 28: Prix de Consolation (Handicap). An object of Art and 1000f.
Friday and Saturday, Jan. 29 and 30: Second Universal Championship (Triennial). An object of Art and 3000f.
Besides, the Stand will be opened every Monday and Friday until Feb. 23 for Pools and Matches.
A Second Series of Meetings will take place immediately after the GRAND CONCOURS, and be continued until March 10, every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. Thursday and Friday, March 11 and 12: The Grand Prix de Cloture. An object of Art and 3000f., followed by a Third Series of Meetings until April. For full particulars, address M. A. BLONDI, Secretary, Pigeon-Shooting, Monte Carlo.

SEA BATHING AT MONACO.
This is pursued during the Winter Season, on a sandy beach, facing the Grand Hôtel des Bains.
MONTE CARLO is supplied with the following superior Hotels:—Grand Hôtel de Paris, the Grand Hôtel de la Victoria, Hôtel des Anglais, Grand Hôtel de Monte Carlo, Hôtel de Russie, Beau Rivage, &c.; and furnished villas, together with excellent apartments, are to be obtained.

MUSIC.

Last week's London Ballad Concert—the first of this year's evening performances—included the following successful new songs, which were very effectively rendered by the vocalists named in association therewith:—Cécile Hartog's "The Year's at the Spring" (Miss M. Davies), Stephen Adams's "The Garonne" (Mr. E. Lloyd), and his "Vanderdecken" (Mr. Maybrick). Other better-known pieces were successfully rendered by the same vocalists, Madame and Mdlle. Trebelli, Madame Antoinette Sterling, Miss E. Rees, and Mr. Santley. Mr. Venables' choir contributed some effective part-singing, and solos on the pianoforte and double bass were brilliantly played, respectively, by M. De Pachmann and Signor Bottesini. Mr. Sidney Naylor was the accompanist. This week's morning concert was of similar attractiveness.

The resumption of the Monday Popular Concerts was recorded last week, when also the first Saturday afternoon performance of the year took place. On the latter occasion, Beethoven's septet was given, for the thirty-ninth time, its execution having been of rare perfection at the hands of Madame Normann-Néruda and MM. Straus, Lazarus, Paersch, Wotton, Hausmann, and Bottesini. The "Andante" and "Scherzo" from a posthumous unfinished string quartet of Mendelssohn, were finely played by Madame Néruda and MM. L. Ries, Straus, and Hausmann; the lady violinist and the violist having been associated in Schumann's "Märchenzyklungen," with Mr. Charles Hallé, whose finished pianoforte playing was also specially manifested in a "Nocturne" by Chopin, and a "Scherzo" by Brahms. Mr. Santley sang an aria by Handel and "lieder" by Schumann with fine effect. Mr. Sidney Naylor was the accompanist.

The birthday commemoration of Burns will be celebrated, by anticipation, in a concert of Scottish music given by Mr. Ambrose Austin, at St. James's Hall this (Saturday) evening; another similar celebration being announced for the anniversary (on Monday evening next) at one of Mr. W. Carter's Festival Concerts at the Royal Albert Hall.

The sixth concert of the fifteenth season of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society took place this week, with a grand performance of Berlioz's "Faust" music, which had several times previously been given by the society. The solo vocalists announced at this week's concert were Madame Valleria, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. H. Pyatt, and Mr. B. Foote.

Herr Bonawitz gave the last of a series of his interesting historical recitals of harpsichord and pianoforte music last week at Prince's Hall, where Madame Viard-Louis held the second of the last series of her Beethoven performances on Thursday. Herr Bonawitz will give the first of a second series of harpsichord and piano recitals on Saturday afternoons on Saturday, Feb. 6.

The Carl Rosa Opera Company is pursuing a prosperous career at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, where "Fadette," an English adaptation of Maillart's "Les Dragons de Villars," was produced, with great success, on Monday last. The cast was a strong one, including Madame Marie Roze, Madame Julia Gaylord, Mr. B. McGuckin, Mr. Sauvage, Mr. Burgon, and Mr. Esmond. The work is likely to prove attractive in the provinces, and will doubtless be heard in Mr. Rosa's forthcoming London season at Drury-Lane Theatre, beginning on May 31. As already said, the four weeks' performances here will include the production of a new opera composed by Mr. Mackenzie, to a libretto, on a troubadour subject, written by Dr. Francis Hueffer.

The death of Mr. Joseph Maas, on Saturday last, was a subject of widespread regret among the musical public. The eminent tenor was born in 1847, at Dartford, in Kent, and was for several years of his boyhood a chorister of Rochester Cathedral. When his voice changed to a tenor, after a short period passed in a Government office, he studied in Italy, after which (in 1871), he made his first London appearance, at a concert of Mr. Henry Leslie's Choir, having subsequently been included in the spectacular and musical piece, "Babil and Bijou," at Covent-Garden Theatre. More important, however, was his association with the Kellogg Opera Company, in America; and still more so his stage appearances in London, in 1877 and later, as a member of the Carl Rosa Opera Company; and, more recently, on the Italian Opera stage at Her Majesty's Theatre and the Royal Italian Opera. As a concert and oratorio singer, Mr. Maas also earned high distinction. His voice was of pure and beautiful quality, extensive compass, and entirely free from the objectionable "tremolo" indulged in by many tenors (chiefly of the foreign schools). In the genuine cantabile style, he has scarcely been surpassed—seldom equalled. It is matter for deep regret that such a career should have been so early closed when in mid-success. The late Mr. Maas leaves behind him a highly respected memory, artistic and personal.

The eminent Italian composer Signor Ponchielli died at Milan on Saturday last. He was born in 1834, and produced his first opera, "I Promessi Sposi," in 1856; the success of this and of some subsequent works having been greatly exceeded by that obtained by his "Gioconda," brought out in 1876, and given at our Royal Italian Opera in 1883, as noticed at the time.

Mr. Lewis H. Isaacs, M.P., last Saturday night opened formally a new working men's club and institute in connection with St. Mary's Church, Clarence-street, Old Kent-road.

A Rifle Volunteer drill-hall, which has been built at a cost of £6000, and which provides standing accommodation for over 10,000 persons, was opened at Portsmouth on Monday night by General Sir George Willis, commanding the Southern District.

The number of live stock and the quantity of fresh meat landed at Liverpool last week from American and Canadian ports amounted to 777 cattle, 740 sheep, 6092 quarters of beef, and 486 carcasses of mutton.

Messrs. J. and R. Maxwell's forthcoming publications include several new and entertaining works of fiction by various authors. Miss Braddon's recent novel, "Wyllard's Weird"—one of the most ingenious and successful of the many works of fiction by this popular author—is about to be issued in cheap form by these publishers; who have also in the press cheap editions of several other popular works by well-known authors.

The following list of those who have passed the third part of the Mathematical Tripos examination at Cambridge was published last Saturday morning. The examination was in the most abstruse subjects of mathematics, and those alone were eligible as candidates who were classed as Wranglers in June last. Of thirty-four so classed, fifteen only presented themselves, the undermentioned being approved. The names are arranged alphabetically in each division:—Division I.: Barnard, Emmanuel; Berry, King's; R. Holmes, St. John's; Love, St. John's; Richmond, King's; Roseveare, St. John's. Division II.: Brook, Trinity; Harkness, Trinity; Jessop, Clare; Kintoul, Corpus; Russell, Caius. Division III.: Frazer, Trinity Hall; Smith, King's; D. A. Stewart, Caius; Miss M. G. Rickett, Newnham.

THE COURT.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg and the members of the Royal Household attended Divine service at Osborne. The Rev. Canon Capel Cure, who officiated, had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal family. On Monday morning the Queen went out with Princess Beatrice; and Prince Henry of Battenberg went out hunting. The Queen held a Council on Tuesday, at which were present Viscount Cranbrook, Lord President of the Council; the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Privy Seal; and Sir Richard Cross, Secretary of State for the Home Department. Viscount Cranbrook and Sir Richard Cross had audiences of the Queen. Mr. Justice (William) Grantham and Dr. James Crichton Browne were introduced to her Majesty's presence, and received the honour of knighthood. Mr. Algernon St. Maur, on the part of the Duke of Somerset, delivered up to her Majesty the badge of the Order of the Garter worn by the late Duke of Somerset. Her Majesty came to town on Wednesday, accompanied by Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, and on Thursday opened Parliament. Her Majesty remained at Buckingham Palace until Friday morning, when she returned to Osborne, where it is believed the Queen will remain till about Feb. 7, proceeding then to Windsor.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and the members of their family attended Divine service at Sandringham church on Sunday morning. The Rev. F. A. J. Hervey, Domestic Chaplain to the Prince of Wales and Rector of Sandringham, officiated, assisted by Canon Tarver, Chaplain to the Queen and Prince of Wales, who preached the sermon. The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor, Prince George, and Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, arrived at Marlborough House on Monday afternoon from Sandringham. The Prince, accompanied by Prince George, was present at the Gaiety Theatre in the evening, and witnessed, for the second time, the performance of "Jack Sheppard." The Duke of Westminster received near the close of last week a telegram at Eaton Hall saying that, owing to the indisposition of the Princess, her Royal Highness, with Princess Louise, would be unable to accompany the Prince of Wales to Chester. The Prince and the young Princes, however, arrived at Chester on Tuesday evening, as previously arranged, and met with a hearty reception. They drove in the carriage of the Duke of Westminster through the illuminated streets of the ancient city, and through the park to Eaton Hall, the residence of the Lord Lieutenant of the county. Their Royal Highnesses and party went to Liverpool next day to open the Mersey tunnel, the people of Liverpool and Birkenhead celebrating with justifiable pride the completion of this great work of engineering skill; and returned direct to London, to take part with her Majesty in the opening of Parliament. Prince George of Wales, Lieutenant R.N., was on the 14th inst. appointed to her Majesty's turret-ship Thunderer.

Princess Christian, who has been ill for the last ten weeks, is now convalescent.

A baronetcy has been conferred upon Mr. George Stephen, president of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Mr. C. N. Newdegate, late M.P. for North Warwickshire, is to be sworn of her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Lieutenant-General the Hon. Sir Leicester Smyth, K.C.M.G., C.B., has been appointed a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath (Military Division).

Mr. Walter Meyrick North, the youngest son of the Archdeacon of Cardigan, has been appointed to the vacant stipendiary magistracy at Merthyr and Aberdare.

The Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George has been conferred upon Sir William White, K.C.M.G., her Majesty's Minister at Constantinople; and Mr. F. Lascelles, her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Sofia, has been appointed a Knight Commander of the same order.

Sir Charles Warren has been appointed a Major-General on the staff in Egypt, with the command of the troops at Suakim. A number of Cape merchants in the City of London assembled at the Guildhall Tavern, on the 15th inst., to present a service of plate to Sir Charles Warren, in recognition of his settlement of Bechuanaland.

Mr. William Brandford Griffith, C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor, has been appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Gold Coast Colony; and Mr. Cornelius Alfred Moloney, C.M.G. (Administrator of the Government of the Gambia), Administrator of the Colony of Lagos; and Mr. James Shaw Hay to be Administrator of Gambia.

Lieutenant-Colonel Herbert Chermide, R.E., C.M.G., has been appointed a Companion of the Bath (Civil), in recognition of his services in the Eastern Soudan; and Major Frederick M. Hunter, her Majesty's Consul on the Somali Coast, a Companion of the Bath (Civil); and Major Heath and Lieutenant Westropp Peyton to be Companions of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, in recognition of their services in connection with the withdrawal of the Egyptian garrison from Harrar.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGES.

The marriage of the Earl of Airlie and Lady Mabel Gore, eldest daughter of the Earl of Arran, was solemnised on Tuesday morning, at St. George's, Hanover-square. A number of the non-commissioned officers of the 10th Hussars lined the centre aisle. The Prince of Wales and Prince Edward of Wales occupied seats in the pews facing the altar, and many of the nobility were present. Lord Arran conducted his daughter to the altar. She wore a costume of ivory duchesse satin, trimmed with point lace and sprays of orange blossoms. There were nine bridesmaids—the Ladies Alice and Esther Gore, sisters of the bride; the Ladies Maude and Grisella Ogilvy, sisters of the bridegroom; Miss Fane, the Hon. Beatrice Ruthven, Miss Frances Mitford, Miss Ives Mitford, and Miss K. Hozier. They were attired in pretty dresses of white ottoman silk, trimmed with gold braid, with jackets and hats en suite. Each wore a diamond initial brooch, the gift of the bridegroom.

The marriage of Mr. Broughton-Adderley and the Hon. Florence Handcock, second daughter of Lord Castlemaine, was solemnised on the 14th inst., at the parish church of Moydrum, Athlone, county Westmeath, by the Archbishop of Dublin (Lord Plunket). The bride was given away by her father, and Mr. Melville Wynne acted as best man. Owing to recent deaths in the bridegroom's family, the wedding was strictly private, and only the nearest relatives of the bride were of the party. The bride, for this reason, was unaccompanied by bridesmaids.

A large and fashionable congregation assembled on the 14th inst. at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, to witness the marriage of Mr. D. Jardine Jardine, of Dryfeholm, Dumfriesshire, and Miss Angela Bright, daughter of Sir Charles and Lady Bright. The ceremony was fully choral. The bride, who was conducted to the altar by her father, wore a dress of ivory satin, trimmed with old Flemish lace. She was accompanied by seven bridesmaids and a little page of honour.

THE CHURCH.

Dr. Moorhouse, Bishop of Melbourne, has accepted the offer of the vacant see of Manchester.

The Rev. John Gott, D.D., Vicar of Leeds, has been appointed to the vacant Deanery of Worcester.

The consecration of the Bishop-Elect of Ely (Lord Alwyne Compton) has been definitely fixed to take place in St. Paul's Cathedral, on Feb. 2.

The parish church of All Saints, Leighton Buzzard, which dates from the year 1250, is in course of complete interior restoration.

The Vicar of Tamworth, the Rev. W. Macgregor, has presented to the town a spacious institute and baths, which he has had built at an outlay of between £3000 and £4000.

The Bishop of Bedford opened the new church which has been erected at the Hackney Union last week. The building, which will accommodate 1000 persons, has cost £2000.

The Rev. Graham Sandberg, Curate of Christ Church, South Hackney, has been appointed one of her Majesty's chaplains in Bengal. Mr. Sandberg was formerly a barrister.

The Bishop of London on the 14th inst. consecrated the Church of St. Matthias, situate in Caledonian-road, opposite the Royal Caledonian Asylum. The church, originally erected as a chapel, has lately been greatly enlarged, several houses in the rear having been altered and incorporated into it.

A memorial window has been placed in the west end of Christ Church, Waterden-road, Guildford, presented by the late Mr. Pagan, of Oak Lodge, and commemorative of his wife and two children. It is in stained glass, and has been designed and produced by Messrs. Lavers and Westlake, of Endell-street, London.

A lady who until recently was a member of the congregation of the parish church of St. Mary, Lambeth, has presented £1000 to the Rev. T. B. Robertson, late Curate of the church, "as a mark of the great esteem in which she holds him, and also in recognition of spiritual comfort received from him during his curacy."

The late Rev. C. A. Belli, who during his lifetime gave £6000 towards the erection of the new parish church of Brentwood, has given directions in his will for the completion of the edifice by the building of the tower and spire. This work will cost between £3000 and £4000. It is estimated that during his lifetime Mr. Belli gave something like £50,000 towards Church work in the Brentwood district.

The Ecclesiastical Commissioners have decided to grant to the Incumbents of the several benefices within the diocese of Canterbury the annual "tenths" and "pensions," or yearly payments, which are now receivable by them. Henceforth, therefore, each Incumbent will be entitled to receive from the Commissioners, or on their account, the net amount of the profits and proceeds of these tenths and pensions.

A sermon was preached at St. Matthew's Church, Oxhey, on Sunday morning last, by the Ven. W. J. Lawrence, Archdeacon of St. Albans, on the occasion of the dedication of a new pulpit, which has been presented by Mrs. Eley, of Oxhey Grange, in memory of her husband. The pulpit, which is of oak, and hexagonal in shape, has five panels, containing carvings representing separately the pomegranate, the passion-flower, the vine, wheat, and the lily. It is by Messrs. Mayer.

Prestbury church, Cheshire, a fine old structure, was reopened on Sunday for Divine service, after being completely restored. The plans were prepared by the late Sir Gilbert Scott, and considerable works have been in progress since 1877. At that period, the church was in a very dilapidated condition. The great features in the operation were the restoration of the nave, south aisle, and south porch. The open timber roof, erected in 1674, has been restored to view; and the tower, which had become unsafe, has been improved by pinnacles and rendered secure. Mr. Legh rebuilt the chancel at his sole expense. The opening sermons were preached by the Bishop of Chester and the Bishop Suffragan of Colchester.

Lord John Manners, Postmaster-General, informs a correspondent that the work of replacing overhead wires will be carried on from time to time as opportunity occurs. But no hope is held out that all the wires throughout the country will be placed underground.

Mr. Robert Giffen gave an address at the School of Mines, Jermyn-street, last Tuesday evening, on the progress of the working classes during the last half-century. After reviewing a number of facts, he arrived at the conclusion that, whereas fifty years ago the working classes of the United Kingdom, numbering nine millions, earned in all £19 per head per annum, they now numbered thirteen millions, and earned nearly £42 per head per annum.

Messrs. Benmore and Sons have published "The Rosarian's Year-Book for 1886," edited by the Rev. H. Honeywood D'Ombain, hon. secretary of the National Rose Society. It contains a photographic portrait and a brief memoir of Mr. B. R. Cant, of Colchester, who has been an exhibitor at all the best rose-shows for more than thirty years, during which time he has held a foremost place, carrying off a goodly number of first prizes; and there are numerous articles on the flower of flowers by various writers of note.

Our portraits of the Duke of Abercorn and the Earl of Scarborough, respectively, are from photographs by Messrs. W. and D. Downey, of London and Newcastle, and by Mr. John Edwards, of Hyde Park-corner; that of Lord Curzon, by the London Stereoscopic Company; and that of Mr. W. H. Houldsworth, by Mr. Bara, of Ayr. The other portraits of members of the new Parliament were photographed by Mr. Disderi, of Brook-street, Hanover-square; Mr. Van der Weyde, of Regent-street; the London Stereoscopic Company; Mr. Walery, of Conduit-street; Messrs. Dickinson, of New Bond-street; Mr. Fall, of Baker-street; Messrs. Russell and Sons, of Tufnell Park; Mr. Barraud, of Oxford-street; Mr. A. Bassano, of Piccadilly; Messrs. Tear and Son, of Kennington; Messrs. W. and A. H. Fry, of Brighton; Messrs. Lambert, Weston, and Son, of Folkestone; and the County of Gloucester Studio, at Cheltenham.

The Special Commissioner from New Plymouth (Taranaki), New Zealand, Mr. William Courtney, who was in London during the winter of 1884, and then addressed meetings presided over by Sir Charles Dilke, Mr. Samuel Morley, and Sir Francis Dillon Bell, Agent-General for the New Zealand Government, is here again on a second mission, to make known the attractions and advantages of Taranaki, a most beautiful and fertile part of the North Island, and to explain the terms upon which land may be obtained by intending settlers. Letters, written in August, September, and October, by several of the emigrants who went out to New Zealand with Mr. Courtney in the early part of last year, contain the strongest testimony of satisfaction, and we are enabled to confirm the truth of his statements respecting Taranaki. His lecture at Exeter Hall this (Saturday) evening will be illustrated by some lime-light views of scenery, and should be attended by a good audience.

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

A lively and pleasant vein of fresh, original humour, with continual allusions to the vivid and characteristic portraits of old English society in Chaucer's immortal Prologue, recommends Mrs. Pennell's narrative of *A Canterbury Pilgrimage* (Seeley and Co.). Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pennell—the gentleman being an artist, and the lady, as we find, a very agreeable writer—ride together on a double tricycle, with one seat in front and one behind, each taking part in the working of the machine. They resolved, one fine day in August, to journey from London to Canterbury, stopping on the way at Rochester for a night, and to compare the present aspects of the country, the manners of rural life, and the chance meetings of passengers on the road, with Chaucer's descriptions, written some five hundred years ago. The sketches drawn by Mr. Pennell, and engraved in this little book, are in some instances very pretty and in others very droll; while the unaffected cheerfulness and refined playfulness of the lady writer, with her quick observation of details, and her faculty of describing landscapes or picturesque bits of towns and villages, make delightful reading. The first sketch is that of the adventurous pair, starting early in the morning, and calmly wheeling down Holborn, to the envy of a donkey-cart driver; this is followed by sketches at Deptford and Blackheath, at Crayford, Dartford, and Gravesend, with groups of hop-pickers on the road, at Rochester, at Sittingbourne, and finally at Canterbury, where they stayed at that good old-fashioned inn, the "Sir John Falstaff," outside Westgate. They visited the cathedral and the site of Becket's martyrdom, and heard the verger tell how King Henry VIII. took away the holy shrine.

A subject which great artists like Sir Edwin Landseer have designed to treat in admired pictures is *Humour in Animals*; and this line of sympathetic observation is pursued by Mr. W. H. Beard, in a series of studies with pen and pencil, filling a volume published by Messrs. G. P. Putnam and Sons, of New York and London. The author and artist, residing in America, saw the habits of native beasts and birds, as might be expected, with certain differences from those we commonly see in Great Britain; but there is among the brute creation, as in the human race, that touch of nature which makes the whole world kin; and the characteristic disposition of each species is much the same on both sides of the Atlantic. The "barred grey owl," for example, whose portrait appears in the frontispiece, and who is seen, in another drawing, gravely occupied in peering into the wide-open mouth of a boy, might, perhaps, have an equally droll congenier among the British varieties of owls in a domesticated condition. With cranes, bears, and turtles, we can make acquaintance in the Zoological Society's Gardens, also with the seal and the hippopotamus; and nobody will deny that the sea-lion has a sense of humour in its trick of splashing water on the spectators by a sudden fall backward. Dogs, cats, monkeys, and parrots, as Mr. Beard effectively shows, are conscious and voluntary contributors to human amusement; and we feel no doubt that there is a vein of genuine playfulness, extending to a certain perception of mental triumph when they perform cunning artifices of deceit, in many of the wild creatures. "Swallows' jokes," the wanton mischievousness of the crow, and, we should say, of the magpie, the slyness of the fox, and some well-authenticated stories of rats, bear out this assumption; which is successfully illustrated both in the text and in the engravings of the volume under notice.

Another "Strange Story of Dogs and their Doings," written by Mr. Ponsonby Cox, and illustrated by Mr. J. H. Oswald Brown, is published with the enigmatical title, *The Opening of the Line* (W. Blackwood and Sons). It is an epic poem, in the ballad metre of "Chevy Chase," narrating the heroic achievements of Buff, a Skye terrier, and his comrades, Spot, the fox-terrier, followed by several other dogs, residing near Logie Brae, who constructed a railway on their own account, and opened it for traffic; but their train, on its first trip, was crossed by a fox and pack of hounds in full cry, with the results easily to be imagined. The idea is rather forced, as it seems to us; but the individuality of Buff is well preserved, and the reader cannot fail to be interested in his final tussle with the fox. Mr. Oswald Brown's drawings are spirited and full of doggish character.

Authentic natural history supplies an abundant store of instructive entertainment; and we can recommend, for intelligent young persons, a book called *Marvels of Animal Life*, by Charles Frederick Holder (Sampson Low and Co.). Its contents, which have partly appeared in two American magazines, are principally descriptions of the structure and habits of certain species of marine animals; the nest-building fishes; the holothuria, and other living creatures, that afford shelter inside them to many small fishes; the phosphorescent jelly-fish, "meteors of the sea"; the climbing perch and others which can live on shore; the sword-fish, the reputed sea-serpent, the white whale, the shark and other "tigers of the sea," the electrical fishes, the octopus, and creatures that lay elaborate traps for their prey. Mr. Holder has not got all his knowledge from scientific books, but has travelled widely and observed these curious things as a practical fisherman in different parts of the world. The volume is illustrated by some thirty wood engravings.

We have already noticed, with high approval, the series, published by Messrs. Cassell and Co., of beautiful coloured plates and botanical descriptions of "Familiar Wild Flowers," drawn by Mr. F. E. Hulme, F.L.S. The same artist has produced several volumes of *Familiar Garden Flowers*, in a corresponding form; each volume containing forty plates, most accurately drawn and coloured after Nature, with short but sufficient articles written by Mr. Shirley Hibberd. A series of the "Familiar Trees of Great Britain" is also in progress. There will be a complete small library of these elegant books, five volumes to each series; and *Familiar Wild Birds*, by Mr. W. Swainsland, the second volume of which has come out, is fully worthy of being a companion to the botanical series. Families living in the country should possess all the sets of these charming pictures and instructive brief treatises, by which their observation of plants, their employment in the garden, and their delight in the fields, the woods, and the hedgerows, will obtain the guidance of correct knowledge. The illustrations are of wonderfully fine quality, considering the cheapness of the publication.

Among the books published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, one that deserves much commendation is *Nature and Her Servants*, by Mr. Theodore Wood, consisting of "Sketches of the Animal Kingdom." It treats of monkeys, beasts of the cat kind, bears, elephants, camels, giraffes, horses, dogs, beavers, kangaroos and opossums, ant-eaters, bats, rats, and other rodents, birds of many species, tortoises, turtles, frogs, snakes, and other reptiles, some kinds of fishes, molluscs, crustaceans, spiders and various insects, and zoophytes, in a series descending in rank, though ascending, probably, in the order of their date of original production, to the more primitive and simple forms of animal life. Mr. Wood discards the use of scientific terms, and explains the structure of these creatures, and its adaptation to their mode of existence, in a manner that is within the comprehension of most children twelve years old. The descriptions are illustrated by numerous engravings, and the volume is a suitable gift to any thoughtful boy or girl.



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OLD MASTERS AT BURLINGTON HOUSE.

THE FOREIGN SCHOOLS.

The honours of the present exhibition are, in more senses than one, due to her Majesty, for among the works by foreign artists few can compare with the four specimens lent from the Buckingham Palace collection. Of these, "Afternoon" (98), by Peter De Hooghe, is the most attractive—an open court, an old woman in a red cloak spinning, and beyond it an archway, through which one sees a red-tiled house, a village steeple, green trees, and blue clouds. It is singularly bright and cheerful, and, although carefully executed, is wholly free from formality. "The Calm" (100), by William Van de Velde, is a busy, bustling scene, in spite of its name, representing the sea-reach of some sluggish Dutch river swarming with boats decked in gala dress. Ostade's "Interior of a Public-house" (97) shows that one Dutch artist, at least, could depict the life of the people without the coarseness or vulgarity into which so many, even those of the highest powers, were not unfrequently betrayed by their devotion to truth, or by their total want of imaginative power. The remaining picture of the set, Hobbema's "Water-Mill" (95), is especially noteworthy as evidence of the artist's poetic conception of nature. The elements of the picture are the very simplest—a mother and child awaiting the return of the father are seated beside a stream, which flows into the foreground after passing the water-mill, of which the under-shot wheel shows that the day's work is over. It was from works of this sort that the painters of the Norwich School drew their inspirations, and finally impressed, through Gainsborough, upon English landscape painting that love of nature and of fresh air which are its distinguishing features. Among the other Dutch pictures, which, according to custom, are brought together in the second gallery, a large picture by the elder Teniers, "The Skittle-Players" (91), shows his power of landscape painting; but its interest is too diffused, or rather is too slight, for so large a canvas, and it can scarcely be compared with a recent acquisition of the National Gallery of Ireland, "A Peasants' Kermesse" (77), which is the joint production of Teniers and a less-known artist, Lucas Van Uden. The "Portrait of a Man" (65), by Gonzales Coques, is also a good specimen of Dutch work of the best period—simple in treatment, but forcible and even dignified in expression. Among the other more attractive pictures in this room may be mentioned "A Calm" (57), by William Van de Velde, and "Fishing Under Ice" (63), by Albert Cuyp, an animated scene, very unlike most of this artist's works; for, as a rule, he liked wide-stretching landscapes, soft skies, and the incidents of country life. "The Burgomaster" (71), and an "Interior" (69), both by Peter De Hooghe, are both slightly deficient in that brightness and softness which distinguish the Queen's picture by the same artist. "Moonlight" (88), by Aart Van der Neer, is rather a *tour de force* than a work of high art; and it falls short of the splendid specimen of this artist's powers which was one of the most attractive pictures in last winter's exhibition. Some overpowering animal pieces by Snyders; "The Card-Players" (85), by Nicholas Maas; and a group of "Cattle" (82), by Paul Potter, deserve notice.

Of the pictures by Italian artists exhibited this year, especially of those in the Fourth Room, but little need be said. The official catalogue tells us all that is known, and a good deal more besides, of the various works attributed without hesitation to the most distinguished painters. In questions of this sort, where the historical descent of any given picture cannot be traced with absolute certainty from the time when it left the artist's easel, a very great latitude must be left to individual taste and private judgment, and to the exercise of both the picture-purchaser has as much right as the picture-critic. From this point of view there is no reason to do otherwise than to congratulate the Earl of Wemyss on the rapidity with which he has brought together a gallery containing the representative names of all schools, and at prices, if rumour may be credited, varying from twenty to two hundred guineas apiece, instead of paying the fabulous value which public competition has attributed of late years to the "historical" works of the same artists. For example, the "Venus and Adonis" (109) by Titian may be, as it would seem to be regarded by the owner, a replica by the master's own hand of the picture in the National Gallery; or, on the other hand, it may be only a contemporary student's work under Titian's eye; or, again, a very respectable, but poorly coloured copy. In like manner it is necessary to allude to the "Mona Lisa" (La Gioconda) of Leonardo Da Vinci (187), the "Virgin and Child" (189) of Mantegna, and the "Holy Family" (115) by Correggio, with many others from the same collection. They have doubtless many qualities to attract the eye, and may have other credentials to support their claims; but, in ignorance of their history, we hesitate to pronounce upon their authenticity.

Another work which, by its prominent position, at least challenges notice, is "The Vision of a Pietà" (107), which Mr. Heseltine ascribes to Paul Veronese. There is no doubt that the face of the woman in the left-hand corner is to be found repeated, in its chief characteristics, in a well-known and thoroughly authentic picture at Venice; but with regard to the rest of the work, Mr. Heseltine, an artist himself of considerable power, and no mere picture-buyer, has a perfect right to maintain his own opinion against those who believe that such hard, dark, and prosaic work was scarcely of the time or hand of the master to whom it is attributed. It looks, to our eyes, like the product of neither a Venetian nor a Veronese painter, but of one who had been brought in close contact with a more southern school. On the other hand, "St. Francis Receiving the Stigmata" (198), by John Van Eyck, is a work which conveys at once a sense of its genuineness, and its condition is so perfect that it deserves to be ranked as one of the most valuable pictures in the present exhibition. Another very beautiful picture is the "Burgomaster's Wife" (105), by Sir Antonio More, a lady with a refined face, in a black and red dress, on a dark background; and the two landscapes by Claude (129) and (133) are exquisite specimens of that artist's work, especially the latter, of which Mr. James Knowles is the lucky possessor. Lord Monson's principal contribution is an undoubted Leonardo, "A Holy Family" (123), known also as "La Madonna del basso-rilievo," on account of a somewhat curious arrangement in one corner of the picture. A "Nativity" (206), by Vittore Carpaccio, although attractive in many points, bears too much appearance of having been tampered with to convey an adequate idea of this most naïve and simple master's style; and the like must be said of "La Bella Simonetta" (196), the head of a beautiful woman with the most extravagant head of hair, attributed to Sandro Botticelli, and lent by Colonel Sterling. Close by, Lord Wantage exhibits a small picture of "St. Sebastian and St. Jerome" (197), two exquisitely finished full-length figures, ascribed, and probably with reason, to Perugino. In the same room should be noticed a portrait of "Edward VI." (183), by an unknown artist—perhaps one of Holbein's assistants, whose name one regrets has not been preserved—and a portrait of "Ferdinand I." (167), by Barthel Beham,

a Nuremberg painter, whose younger brother Sebald was one of the "little masters," and ranked high amongst Albrecht Dürer's pupils and contemporaries. Without wishing to disparage Lord Berwick's Velasquez, "An Infante" (146), with three dogs in a large landscape, one must admit that the finest of the full-length life-sized portraits of the year is that by Vandyck of the "Duchess of Arenemberg" (148), in a black and white dress. Beside her, in almost fanciful costume of red and gold, stands her child, who serves to bring out more strongly the dignity of the lady and the masterly skill of the painter. This picture will be recognised as the gem among the pictures by foreign masters, and with it we bring our notes on them to a conclusion.

At Messrs. Dowdeswell's Gallery (162, New Bond-street) are to be seen a score of oil paintings by Mr. Walter Sickert, who appeals to the public on the ground that he is the "pupil of Whistler." In what our neighbours call *facture* Mr. Sickert has certainly caught something of his master's trick; but in the inner perception of the "things unseen," which Mr. Whistler led us often to feel were lurking behind his misty foregrounds, the pupil has still much to learn. If his aim has been to catch fleeting impressions, and to transfer them at once to his canvas for subsequent use and study, there is no reason to find fault with the delicacy of his perception; but it is rather a misnomer to call such works pictures, or to attempt to pass them as the result of serious application. For the most part, the colouring is flat and opaque, and in nearly every case far too imitative of his master's "symphonies" and "arrangements." The single figure "Olive" (8), however, shows that Mr. Sickert, when left to think for himself, can produce satisfactory work, and contains the germ of better things.

Palladiense's Gallery (62, New Bond-street) is the latest addition to the already long list of "picture resorts." Its principal attractions on the present occasion are contributions from Signor Campotosto's studio, portraits of the late Prince Imperial, the present Pope, &c., as well as numerous landscapes and figure pieces. This artist, in spite of his Italian name, is thoroughly Belgian in the style of his art, and shows the influence of Verboeckhoven more than of any other teacher. The other works exhibited are chiefly by Flemish artists—De Jongh, Van Lierus, and others—many of whom are becoming popular in this country since the Antwerp Exhibition of last year revealed their existence to English travellers.

The exhibition of Colonial pictures now on view at the Burlington Gallery (27, Old Bond-street) is one of the most interesting offered to the public. If some, or even many, of the works fall short of a high art standard, they make up for such shortcomings by giving us a fresh and apparently truthful idea of Greater Britain; and we cannot but think that this exhibition will attain, as it deserves, a wide popularity. Australia and New Zealand are largely illustrated by Mr. Nicholas Chevallier, Mr. E. W. Cook, Mr. C. E. Hern, Mr. E. Roper, Mr. H. J. Johnstone—and some of the water-colour sketches by the last named (51-6) are exceedingly artistic and well finished. The large picture of "Mount Cook and the Southern Alps of New Zealand" (33) gives a very striking idea of the grandeur of those countries, which must offer fresh and fine fields for the members of the Alpine Club. Mr. Strutt sends a number of highly-finished pictures, illustrative of "Kangaroo-Hunting" (47-50), which convey a lively reminder of excitements of that sport, and a general idea of the country in which it occupies so important a feature in country life. Of the American and Canadian series, which embrace the Yellowstone Park, the Lake Districts of the North, the natural beauties of Canada and the Yosemite Valley, there is an almost inexhaustible supply by Mr. Washington Friew, Mr. H. R. Bloomer, Mr. F. A. Verney, Mr. F. A. Hopkins, and many others. In describing the attractions of some of the spots as health resorts or shooting quarters, one is amused to find that the catalogue also undertakes the duties of a guide-book, and in some instances even gives the tariff at which the tourist may be boarded and lodged. This novel feature is essentially practical, and may be commended to the enterprising organisers of home and Continental picture exhibitions.

We are requested to state that works intended for the spring exhibition of the Nineteenth Century Art Society should be sent to the galleries, Conduit-street, W., on Monday, the 25th inst.

We have received the first number of *Les Lettres et les Arts* (Boussod, Valadon, and Co., Paris), which promises to throw into the shade all competitors in the field of art periodicals. The first thought which suggests itself, is whether the bold innovation of issuing what is really a handsome volume as a monthly periodical is likely to commend itself to annual subscribers. A closer inspection of the contents of the present number will remove any fears of a surfeit of art literature, in its limited or technical sense. M. E. Caro and M. Jules Simon, both distinguished members of the French Academy, contribute articles; the former upon a little-known contemporary thinker, the Abbé Roux, who seems to have had much in common with Joubert and Amiel, lately introduced to English readers. M. Jules Simon finds a congenial subject in "Les Logements des Ouvriers," to which M. Raffaelli contributes an etching representing workmen's life on the exterior boulevards. M. Frédéric Masson sends a really remarkable study of revolutionary France and its popular fêtes, many of which, as he shows, had more than a mere passing desire to amuse the people. The "Worship of Reason" gave rise to saturnalia of all kinds, but the commemorative fêtes of Old Age, Agriculture, Labour, and the like were intended to bring home to the popular mind, under pleasing forms, ideas which up to that time had been associated only with want and misery. There are other lighter articles, such as "Les Poètes du Collège," by E. Pailleron, illustrated by M. Boute De Monvel, full of the most sparkling French *esprit*; a Christmas story, "Les Rois Mages," by Madame Gautier, illustrated by M. Henri Lévy; a delightful little poem, "Le Calumet du Sachem" (or, as we should say, the Pipe of Peace), by Lecomte De Lisle, illustrated by Dubufe; a thoughtful criticism on sacred and secular music, by Gounod; and a technical treatise on the art of enamelling, by M. C. Popelin; and many others, which we pass over with regret. The frontispiece of the volume is an etching by M. Detaille, "La Charge," a bugler calling for the advance of the company in support of their companions tenaciously holding the out-works against the invaders. The process of reproduction employed on this work is very noteworthy, suggesting almost the delicacy of hand-painting in water colours. On the other numerous illustrations with which the first number of *Les Arts et les Lettres* abounds, etching, photogravure, and other methods have been employed with great skill. In conclusion, we should say that, although this periodical makes no appeal for popular support, it should be welcomed by all who care for a combination of the best literary and artistic workmanship—and are ready to pay for it. As such, we heartily wish success to the enterprising editors.

The success attendant on the production of the "Tale of

Troy," some years ago in London, followed by the "Electra" of Sophocles at Oxford, and by the "Birds" of Aristophanes and the "Eumenides" of Æschylus at Cambridge, has emboldened a number of persons to produce an English play on a classical theme and in a strictly classical form. The play selected is to be entitled "Helena in Troas," and is the work of Mr. T. Todhunter, the author of "Alcestis," "Forest Songs," &c., and who is, besides, a devout follower of Shelley in his appreciation of the Greek classics. The play will be produced in a building, properly altered and arranged, by Mr. E. W. Godwin, F.S.A.; the music will be composed by Mr. B. Luard-Selby, expressly for the occasion; and the performers who have already promised their services comprise Mrs. Langtry, Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm-Tree, and Mr. Hermann Vezin. The present idea is to give six representations of "Helena in Troas," and all profits, after the payment of the expenses incurred, will be given to the British School of Archaeology at Athens.

A conference of ladies and gentlemen was held last Saturday in the Mansion House—the Lord Mayor presiding—to consider the subject of "recreative and practical evening classes in school board and other schools." Resolutions supporting the establishment of such classes were adopted, and a council was appointed to undertake the promotion of an association to carry out the proposal. Princess Louise, Mr. Mundella, and the Bishop of London were present.

The University of Oxford, which provides intended members of the Indian Civil Service with ample encouragement and direction to pursue the studies of the Asiatic languages and history, will certainly lose no credit by the publication of *Nadir Shah: The Stanhope Essay of 1855* (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.). The author, Mr. Herbert John Maynard, Scholar of St. John's College, has produced a thoroughly well-digested and intelligible historical narrative of a rather complicated subject: the life and achievements of that extraordinary man, Nadir Kuli, of the Afshar Turkoman tribe at Kelat, in the north-east of Khorassan, who became, just a hundred and fifty years ago, absolute monarch of Persia, and whose military power smote the Mogul Empire of India, on the one hand, while it severely wounded that of Turkey, on the other, and had some effect, through Russia, upon the politics of Europe. The subject is of peculiar interest at this moment, by way of contrast, and in the exhibition of a reverse action, under present circumstances, when the Shah of Persia is feeble and helpless, the warlike force of the Afghans, who played an important part in those affairs of the last century, is no longer capable of aggression, and when Russian conquest, having subdued the Khanates of Central Asia and the Turkomans, approaches the renowned cities of Meshed and Herat. Mr. H. J. Maynard's essay, therefore, seems to us worthy of more general attention than ordinary prize essays at the University; and though it is, of course, not a work of much original research, but one borrowing its information from standard authors whom everybody does not read, he deserves commendation for promising literary ability, shown not only in a correct, forcible, and impressive style, but in the solid qualities of judicious reflection and suggestion of wider thoughts. One or two slight inaccuracies may be noticed in his geography, as in speaking of Attock as a frontier river of India, or rather of the Punjab; but these are pardonable in an essay of the kind. He might also have found, in the approved books on the history of India, more exact particulars than he has given of the famous pillage of Delhi. But the main outlines of his work, as an historical sketch of the situation of Persia, and the career of a terrible Asiatic conqueror, usurper, and tyrant, are faithfully and clearly delineated; and if he should hereafter write books on cognate topics, we shall expect them to be of substantial value.

No subject of public concern lies more heavily, just now, at the bottom of the hearts of ordinary Englishmen, than *The Depression of Trade, its Causes and Remedies*. The two Prize Essays, written by Mr. Edwin Goadby, of York, and Mr. W. Watt, of Aberdeen, which were read at last year's Congress of the British Association, are published by Messrs. Chatto and Windus in a shilling pamphlet, of which many thousand copies have been sold. Their claim to general attention is not at all lessened by the fact that the prize which stimulated the authors to this work, the sum of a hundred guineas, eventually divided between the two, was liberally presented by the well-known firm of Messrs. Pears, renowned for soap and other cosmetics all over the world. The essays were received by Mr. George Potter, President of the London Working Men's Association; and were referred for adjudication of the prizes to three gentlemen of high authority, as political and commercial statisticians. One of these, Professor Leone Levi, has written an introduction, which occupies, with the appended tables of figures, twenty-five pages, and which presents an instructive summary of the best information and soundest arguments bearing on the condition and prospects of British trade. Mr. E. Goadby, who is editor of the *York Herald*, fills thirty-five pages with a closely-reasoned examination of the various causes to which the interruption of our industrial prosperity may be ascribed. These are, first of all, the waste of nearly six hundred millions of capital, foreign and British, in wars since 1870; the losses on foreign loans and other investments; the disturbances of the currency on the Continent, in America, and India; the losses in British agriculture, from bad or indifferent harvests; and the feeling of uncertainty excited by political agitation. These unfavourable influences, in his opinion, have had more to do with the stagnation of trade than foreign competition, or what is called over-production. The remedies to which he points are a policy of peace, wiser and safer investments, the restoration of silver, along with gold, as a standard of value, a more judicious employment of British farming, a simpler and easier system of retail distribution, ready and fair adjustment of disputes between capital and labour, technical education, scientific utilisation of waste products, and new uses for iron and steel; while the opening of new markets is desirable, but Customs' unions and commercial treaties are scarcely to be relied upon for permanent advantage. Economy in public expenditure, both national and local, is strongly recommended. We entirely agree with these views, and hope that the members of the Royal Commission will condescend to read Mr. Goadby's essay, which is followed by that of Mr. Watt, giving an intelligible and credible historical account, supported by true economic arguments, of the special action of commercial conditions on British industry of late years, and insisting upon the revival of confidence, which is justified by the vast extent and diversified resources of the British Empire, and probably also by the hope of large openings in Africa and in China. Mr. Watt is right in enjoining a correct and comprehensive study of commercial geography, and of the statistics of production and consumption in different regions of the globe, for the better guidance of our traders and manufacturers; he is also right, we think, in rejecting legislative contrivances, or protective fiscal regulations, for the advancement of trade. We should be glad to know that a copy of this publication was to be put into the hands of every member of Parliament, and of every newspaper editor in the United Kingdom.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Tuesday, Jan. 19.

The Parisians have just passed through a week of blood and panic, no less than three murders having been committed within three days. The keeper of a wine-shop in the Rue Beaubourg was murdered and robbed by some ruffians, who have been caught. On Tuesday the Préfet, M. Barrême, of Evreux, was assassinated mysteriously in a railway train, between Paris and Maisons Laiffite. On Thursday a woman, named Marie Agneltant, was assassinated in her own room, and robbed, by an elegantly dressed man who had accompanied her. The railway murder in particular is of a nature to cause wide-spread alarm; and the whole question of the security of passengers is being discussed to satiety by the Parisians and their journalists. The motive of this particular murder was not robbery, but evidently personal vengeance.

Expectation is the keynote of politics. The politicians are waiting for the new Ministry to get to work before they make up their minds whether to allow it to live for a year or for three months only. The Ministerial declaration read in the Chamber on Saturday may be said to have been well received as far as the different groups of Republicans are concerned, and, indeed, those who can find anything to criticise in it are hard to please, for all groups have their share of attention. The programme may be said to condense in itself all the ideas and reforms that were agitated during the recent electoral period; it is the collective plan of all the Ministers; M. De Freycinet and M. Goblet reveal in it their resolutions; while M. Lockroy formulates the claims of the electors of Paris. It is decidedly a good, coherent, and clever programme, drawn up with great tact. Above all things, it is clear. Public functionaries must be orderly and disciplined. Everybody is free to oppose the Republic, except the servants of the Republic. In financial reform, the De Freycinet Cabinet advocates neither a new loan, nor new taxation. Its foreign policy is summed up in the establishment of a series of protectorates, reduction of expenses, and cessation of distant expeditions. During the present year Tonquin will cost France 75 millions of francs; in 1887 it will cost 30 millions. Furthermore, the programme leaves a large field open for Parliamentary initiative, with the Cabinet for coadjutor and counsellor. One point to be borne in mind is that this programme is practically Radical, and the present Ministry and its home and foreign policy is more advanced and more Radical in tendency than that of any previous Cabinet.

Thanks to this tendency towards broader and still broader views, the position of Anarchists and Revolutionaries becomes more and more untenable and less interesting. Louise Michel seems now to have lost her crown of martyrdom, to gain in exchange a fool's cap. She and a dozen other political prisoners were pardoned by President Grévy on the occasion of his re-election; and the first thing the crazy woman did on coming out of prison was to write an insulting letter to M. Grévy, and to ask him whether France was still under the Empire. Louise Michel during these first few days of recovered liberty has simply shown that her stay at Saint Lazare has made her crazier than ever.

M. Paul Bert, the eminent physiologist and anti-clerical deputy, has been appointed Civil Governor of Annam.

The question of the week has been whether Wagner's "Lohengrin" ought to be played at the Opéra Comique or not. The answer seems to be a decided "No!" The patriotic Madame Adam, M. Boulanger, the painter and member of the Institute, and a score other eminent people in art and letters, protest strenuously against the production of the music of the master of Bayreuth, who grossly insulted France when she was defeated. There is every evidence that any attempt to perform "Lohengrin" in Paris would occasion serious disturbance.

M. Paul Baudry, the painter and member of the Institute, died of paralysis on Sunday morning, at the age of fifty-eight. M. Baudry was struck down last Tuesday, and all hope of saving him had to be at once abandoned. Baudry was one of a Venetian family of thirteen children; his father was a shoemaker; his precocious talent as a draughtsman caused the municipality of La Roche-sur-Yon to send him to study at Paris at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, where he distinguished himself brilliantly, and won the Prix de Rome. His career throughout was brilliant and glorious. He became one of the greatest decorative painters that modern France has seen. The ideal he aimed at, and often attained, was noble and pure. He was, in every respect, a great artist. Baudry's best known work is in the Grand Opéra, at Paris.

The Emperor William, as King of Prussia, opened the Prussian Diet on the 14th inst., and in his Speech thanked his people for their assurances of love and fidelity on the occasion of his recent anniversary. They corresponded, he added, with the friendly relations existing between the Empire and all foreign Governments, and supported his full belief in the sure continuance of peace.—Prince Bismarck has written to the Pope, expressing his gratitude for his intended investment with a high Papal order, and his confidence in the impartiality of Leo XIII., notwithstanding the difference in their religious faith.—The Berlin Academy of Sciences has granted Lieutenant Guedenfeldt £150 for an exploring expedition in the Atlas Mountains.

An Imperial decree summons the Reichsrath to meet on the 28th inst. The Lower House of the Hungarian Diet has passed, by an overwhelming majority, the Budget for the present year, as agreed upon during the debate on the items composing it. The members of the Extreme Left were the only dissentients.

Servia and Greece have sent replies to the Powers declining to demobilise.

President Cleveland has signed the Presidential Succession Bill.—The House of Representatives at Washington on Saturday passed the Presidential Succession Bill, which, having also received the sanction of the Senate, will become law after signature by President Cleveland.

An earthquake occurred in the Central American State of Guatemala on the 18th ult., which caused great damage in the town of Amatitlan. There were 131 shocks; the inhabitants, however, suffered no serious injury.

The Viceroy of India will leave Calcutta for Burmah on the first day of next month.

The foundations of a vast Roman hippodrome have been unearthed in the immediate neighbourhood of Nantes. With these remains a Roman road and many fragments of villas have been found, as well as a theatre suited for the accommodation of about 4000 persons.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, two medals with their accompanying diplomas, awarded by the President of the French Republic to Mr. Robert Boutilier, superintendent of the Humane Establishment, Sable Island, and William Merson, keeper, West End Light, Sable Island, in recognition of their services to the shipwrecked crew of the French vessel, A. S. H., of St. Malo, on Dec. 19 last.

"FAUST," AT THE LYCEUM THEATRE.

Our Sketches of several characters and scenes in this play, which Mr. Henry Irving produced at the Lyceum a week before Christmas, and which continues to attract fashionable audiences, do not require explanation after so much has been said about it. Readers of Goethe's singularly allegorical dramatic poem are well aware that neither this theatrical melodrama nor Gounod's opera preserves the essential ideas of the German author; which indeed could not be represented on the stage, as they are an attempt to solve the deepest problems of moral psychology and religious philosophy, and, in the Second Part, to illustrate the progress of mental culture through ages of civilisation. The story of the seduction of Gretchen or "Margaret" is a mere episode, of very slight importance to the main subject, in the course of emotional experiences through which Faust, the erring and despairing student of supernatural lore, turning aside from theology to magic and the invocation of demons, is led to discern the illusory character of earthly and sensuous delights, and to find, in contemplating an act of practical beneficence, the true end of human life, sealed by the feeling of perfect happiness. This is the lofty and noble conception of the entire poem, which represents, not the individual history of a profligate man, a sort of Don Juan, with the ruin of his victim, but the complex nature of mankind, its capabilities of good and evil, setting forth the fatal indulgence of a licentious passion as but one variety of the ill consequences of self-abandonment to vague desires. Mephistopheles, the impersonation of that spirit which denies faith and reverence, which appeals to base motives of egotism, and destroys the bonds of duty and sympathy, has his proper place in the work of deceiving Faust, but his intervention for the purpose of leading Margaret astray is utterly superfluous. Goethe always made a pretended mystery of his real intentions in composing this extraordinary work; but there is, we think, internal evidence to prove that the whole passage of the relations between Faust and Margaret was separately conceived, as a tragedy of illicit love between two other personages, the Faust of these acts being an entirely different character, an ordinary profligate, and his accomplice being no supernatural agent, but an ordinary human villain, of the type of Shakespeare's Iago. He may afterwards, in some literary caprice, have chosen to mix this vulgar subject of questionable romance, which his genius rendered extremely pathetic, with the spoiled fabric of his grand effort of philosophical imagination, finding that none of his contemporaries, at least among the frivolous courtiers and literary amateurs at Weimar, could understand the scope of his great work. It is a similar incapacity, perhaps, on the part of modern theatrical audiences and those who cater for their amusement, that has led to the extraction of the Faust and Margaret story from a poem in which it is as much misplaced as it would be in Milton's "Paradise Lost" or in Dante's "Divina Commedia," and to putting it separately on the stage with the introduction of a Mephistopheles, who belongs not at all to Goethe's original conception of the Spirit of Moral Evil, but to the commonplace fancies of a silly popular demonology current in mediæval fables. The result is necessarily inartistic and unpoetical, whatever might possibly have been made of the simply human elements of the grievous story, if Mephistopheles had been kept out of it, and his place supplied by a mercenary or malicious human intriguer.

These comments, however, do not affect the merits of the actors and actresses at the Lyceum, or that of the manager and his assistants, the scene-painters, the costumiers, and the mechanicians, in providing, at great expense, one of the most splendid series of theatrical spectacles ever displayed in London. Mr. Irving's performance as Mephistopheles is another proof of his intellectual power; and Miss Ellen Terry's representation of the innocent German girl, not a very difficult character for a lady who has successfully played many of Shakespeare's heroines, is a figure of womanhood, though hardly of youth, which is naturally engaging to the sympathies of her audience. The Faust of this story, as we have remarked, is not the Faust of the opening soliloquy in Goethe's poem, not the disappointed scholar, the self-torturing doubter, the practiser of magic, the rash meddler with supernatural mysteries, who "calls spirits from the vasty deep" of an unknown universe, trembles when they visit him, and wearily accepts the companionship of the Spirit of Selfishness. No actor will ever be equal to the task of representing that Faust; but the mean, sensual, unprincipled, treacherous seducer of female virtue, the Faust who beguiles Margaret, is within the capacity of many theatrical performers. Nor is there any great difficulty in acting so simple and straightforward a character as that of Valentine, the brother of Margaret, the brave and honest young soldier. This play will, in all probability, be in favour with renewed audiences for some time to come. They will get from it such pleasure as a fine performance of any plausible representation of human passions, trials, faults, and sorrows, is apt to afford. But of Goethe's Faust and Goethe's Mephistopheles, of Goethe's meaning and purpose, of the poet's ideas concerning life—its true aim and rule, and its higher destiny—they will learn nothing at the Lyceum Theatre. The management, however, has from its own point of view, which may be considered legitimate, deserved a large success by this enterprise, and by the talents and skill of those whom it employs; wherefore, let our Illustrations serve to enhance, in some measure, its share of public favour.

RENT REDUCTIONS.

The Duke of Devonshire's Irish tenantry have accepted the 20 per cent abatement offered to them by his Grace, and are now freely paying their rents. Two hundred of the tenants have already paid, and received the abatement. The Earl of Rosebery has remitted 15 per cent of the rents of his tenants on the Mentmore and Noggoston estates for the next three years. The Earl of Zetland has made a return of 20 per cent to his agricultural tenants on the Loftus-in-Cleveland estates for the past half-year. Mr. T. J. Wharton, of Skelton Castle, Yorkshire, has granted an abatement of 15 per cent on the rents due for the same period. Lord Rothschild has promised at his next audit to further remit 15 per cent of his farm rents, making a total reduction of 30 per cent. The Earl of Denbigh, Lord Mostyn, and Sir Edward Bates, Bart., M.P., have offered to grant their Flintshire tenants a reduction of 15 per cent on their rents. The Tenants' Club, however, in their petition to the landlords, demand a permanent reduction of one fourth, fixity of tenure, and compensation for improvements. The Earl of Powis has offered a reduction of 10 per cent in the rentals of his estates in North Wales and Shropshire for the next three years. At the rent audit of Sir H. B. P. Mildmay, Bart., of Dogmersfield Park, Hants, the hon. Baronet allowed an abatement of 20 per cent on all rents.—Sir Harry Verney has set apart seven acres of land at Steeple, Cloyden, Bucks, as garden allotments for the cottagers, who are to hold only a quarter of an acre each, and to grow vegetables only. The annual rent of each quarter-acre is to be 10s.

OBITUARY.

SIR G. U. YULE.

Sir George Udry Yule, K.C.S.I., C.B., died at 30, Clanricarde-gardens on the 13th inst., in his seventy-third year. He was son of Major William Yule, H.E.I.C.S., and in 1831 entered the Civil Service on the Bengal establishment, from which he retired in 1868, after having been Commissioner of Southalia, Chief Commissioner of Oude, Political Resident at Hyderabad, and a member of the Council of India. The Companionship of the Bath was conferred on him in 1860, and the Commandership of the Star of India in 1866. He married, 1862, Henrietta Peach, daughter of Captain Robert Boileau Pemberton, of the Bengal Army.

SIR P. S. CAREY.

Sir Peter Stafford Carey, F.G.S., died on the 17th inst., aged eighty-three. He was son of Mr. Peter Martin Carey, of Guernsey, was educated at St. John's College, Oxford (where he graduated, first class classics, in 1825), was called to the Bar in 1830; held the Professor's Chair of English Law at the University College, London, 1838 to 1845; was Recorder of Dartmouth, 1836 to 1845; and Bailiff of Guernsey, 1845 to 1883. He married, 1835, Emily Aubrey, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Warren, Scots Guards, and was left a widower Feb. 2, 1881.

THE REV. WILLIAM GILSON HUMPHRY.

The Rev. William Gilson Humphry, Prebendary of St. Paul's, and for thirty years Vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, died on the 10th inst. He was born Jan. 30, 1815, the eldest son of Mr. W. Humphry, of Sudbury, Suffolk, Barrister-at-Law, and received his education at Shrewsbury School, under Dr. Butler, and at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated second Chancellor's Medallist, Senior Classic, and twenty-seventh Wrangler. In 1838, he was elected a Fellow of Trinity, was from 1847 to 1856 Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of London, a member of the Royal Commission on Clerical Subscriptions in 1865, and of the Ritual Commission in 1869, and for many years one of the treasurers of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. The theological publications of Mr. Humphry are numerous and valuable. He married, in 1852, Caroline Maria, only daughter of the Rev. George D'Oyly, Rector of Lambeth.

MR. MELLER.

Colonel Walter Meller, of Broadlands, Surrey, J.P., and D.L., Lieutenant-Colonel 1st Tower Hamlets Artillery Volunteers, formerly M.P. for Stafford, died at Brighton on the 10th inst. He was born in 1818, the youngest son of the late Mr. Thomas William Meller, of Denmark-hill, D.L., and sat in Parliament as a Conservative from 1865 to 1869. He married, in 1845, Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr. Thomas Peters, of Kilburn Grange.

We have also to record the deaths of—

The Hon. James Henry Duncombe, late Lieutenant Scots Guards, second son of the present Earl of Feversham, on the 10th inst., aged thirty-two.

The Rev. Charles Griffith, M.A., Prebendary of St. David's, late Rector of Talachddu, and J.P. for Brecknockshire, aged eighty-one.

Mr. James De Vismes Drummond-Hay, C.B., Consul at Valparaiso, aged fifty-one. He was sixth son of Mr. Edward William Auriol Drummond-Hay, Consul-General for Morocco, who was nephew of the ninth Earl of Kinnoull.

The Hon. Frances Maria Wynn, the eldest daughter of the present Lord Newborough, on the 5th inst., and her sister, the Hon. Catherine Wynn, on the 9th inst., the former in her fifty-first year, and the latter in her forty-third year.

Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Colvin Hutchinson, Queen's Own Guides, on the 12th inst., from wounds received in action with the Boner tribe. He was son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel George Hutchinson, of the Bengal Engineers.

Lady Mary Oswald, second daughter of Archibald, first Marquis of Ailsa, and widow of Mr. Richard Oswald, younger, of Auchencruive, on the 11th inst., aged eighty-six. She was married Dec. 10, 1833, and became a widow Jan. 9, 1834. Her grand-niece, Lady Evelyn Kennedy, eldest daughter of the present Marquis of Ailsa, died two days before her Ladyship, in her tenth year.

The Most Rev. Nicolas Conaty, D.D., Roman Catholic Bishop of Kilmore, on the 17th inst., in his sixty-seventh year. After passing through Maynooth, he was ordained, and made Professor at Kilmore Academy. He became afterwards parish priest of Castlerahan, from which he was selected, in 1863, as successor to Dr. Brown in the see of Kilmore. To Bishop Conaty the diocese owes the erection of St. Patrick's College, Cavan.

The Bishop of London on Monday attended the annual meeting of the Charity Organisation Society, at Willis's Rooms, and spoke strongly in support of its principles.

One of the most respectable institutions of the last century in London, connected with interesting features of religious and social history in the times of our forefathers, is "Dr. Williams's Library." It was formerly in the City, in Redcross-street, but was removed some years ago to Queen's-square, Bloomsbury, and now occupies a building of some architectural dignity, near University College, Gower-street. The historical and biographical records of *The Presbyterian Fund* and *Dr. Daniel Williams's Trust*, compiled by Mr. Walter D. Jeremy, the Treasurer and legal Receiver of those endowments, fill a volume, published by Messrs. Williams and Norgate. Perhaps the focus of the general public at this day are well acquainted with the extensive influence which, throughout the reigns of "the Four Georges," was exercised by a long succession of learned and able men, belonging to the old English Presbyterian connection, in the literary, scientific, and political movement of their times. This view of the subject, apart from their theological tendencies, which led to Unitarianism, gives some importance to the memoirs of those Nonconformist scholars, teachers, authors, and active public men, of whom Mr. Jeremy has prepared, with great research and judicious estimation, a very sufficient account. Dr. Williams, who died in 1716, was the founder not only of the library, which is curious and valuable to literary antiquaries, but of educational and charitable institutions, in Wales and elsewhere, which continue to be administered with much benefit to the classes for whom they were designed. The Presbyterian Fund, which dates from 1689, is naturally allied with that of Dr. Williams's Trust. We find here a description of the colleges, academies, and other agencies of liberal assistance to instruction, which, being not confined to the special training of ministers, and never conducted in an exclusive sectarian spirit, have had considerable reputation. To the general reader, however, Mr. Jeremy's book will rather be interesting for the anecdotes that it contains of many notable persons in English society, both in London and in provincial towns, and for numerous incidents that shed fresh light on characters and transactions which are conspicuous in the national history. Mr. Jeremy has performed a very useful work in a very acceptable and satisfactory manner.



MR. R. GENT-DAVIS—KENNINGTON.

Born 1857; son of Mr. Robert Davis, of Hampstead; succeeded to the business of his uncle, Mr. Gent, manufacturing chemist, and took the name of Gent-Davis.



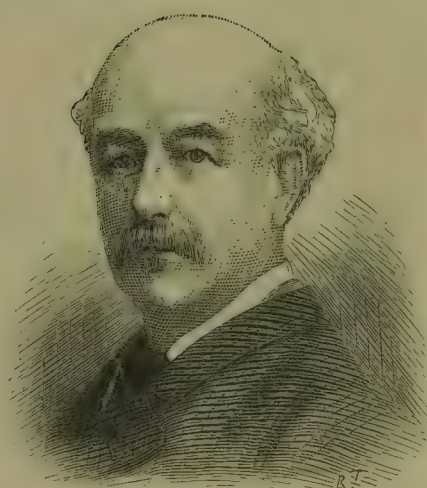
MR. W. H. GRENFELL—SALISBURY.

Born 1855; son of late Mr. C. W. Grenfell, M.P.; educated at Harrow and Balliol College, Oxford; rowed in University boat; was M.P. from 1880 to November, 1882; was a Groom-in-Waiting.



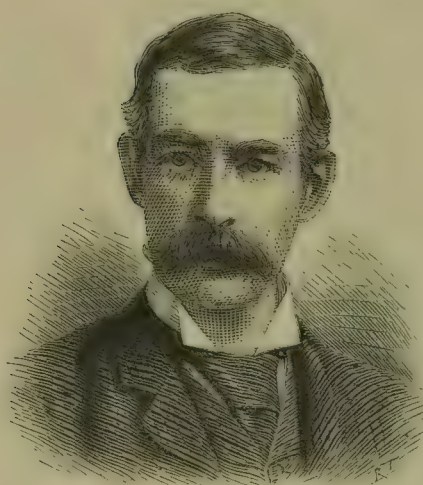
MR. HUGH WATT—CAMLACHIE, GLASGOW.

Born 1846; son of Mr. Watt, Sheriff-Substitute of Kilmarnock; educated there and at University of Geneva; is head of the firm Hugh Watt and Co., shipowners and merchants, Glasgow.



SIR LEWIS PELLY—NORTH HACKNEY.

Born 1825, son of late Mr. J. Hinde Pelly, Gloucestershire; educated at Rugby; entered the Army young, served much in India, was Attaché to Sir James Outram; is a K.C.B. and K.C.S.I.



MR. H. SETON-KARR—ST. HELENS.

Born 1853, son of late Mr. Seton-Karr, of the Indian Civil Service; was educated at Harrow, and at the University of Oxford, where he took second-class honours in law.



MR. T. MILVAIN—DURHAM.

Son of the late Alderman Milvain, of Newcastle; was educated at the Durham Grammar School; was called to the Bar in 1869, and practises on the North-Eastern Circuit.



MR. A. A. BAUMANN—PECKHAM.

Born at Glasgow, 1856, son of Mr. W. Baumann, merchant; was educated at Wellington College, and at Balliol College, Oxford, and was called to the Bar in 1880.



MR. PRYCE JONES—MONTGOMERY.

Born 1834, is the second son of the late Mr. W. Jones, solicitor, of Newtown, in the county of Montgomery; was unsuccessful candidate for Montgomery Boroughs at the election of 1880.



LORD KILCOURSIE—SOUTH SOMERSET.

Viscount Kilcoursie (Frederick J. W. Lambart), eldest son of Earl of Cavan, born 1839, at Eaglehurst, Hants; was Lieutenant in the Royal Navy; and was unsuccessful candidate at former election for East Somersetshire.



MR. H. C. HOWARD—MID-CUMBERLAND.

Born 1830, eldest son of late Mr. H. Howard, of Greystoke; was educated at Harrow, and at Trinity College, Cambridge; is a magistrate and D.L. for Cumberland and Westmoreland; brother-in-law to Earl of Antrim.



MR. W. L. BRIGHT—STOKE-UPON-TRENT.

Mr. W. Leatham Bright, born 1851, second son of Right Hon. John Bright, M.P.; was educated at the Friends' School, Lancaster, at Grove House, Tottenham, and at the University of London.



MR. C. J. VALENTINE—COCKERMOUTH.

Born 1837, at Stockport; resides at Workington, Cumberland; is in the iron and steel trade; managing director of Moss Bay Iron Company; director of Cocker-mouth and Workington Railway.



SIR SAVILE CROSSLEY—NORTH SUFFOLK.

Born 1857, son of late Sir Francis Crossley, Bart, M.P., of Halifax; educated at Eton, and at Balliol College, Oxford; holds commission in Norfolk Artillery Militia; resides at Somerleyton Hall, Lowestoft.



MR. T. COOTE—SOUTH HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

Son of Mr. Coote, of St. Ives and of Bournemouth; and was a partner in the firm of Coote and Warren, coal merchants, of St. Ives, but has lately retired from the business.



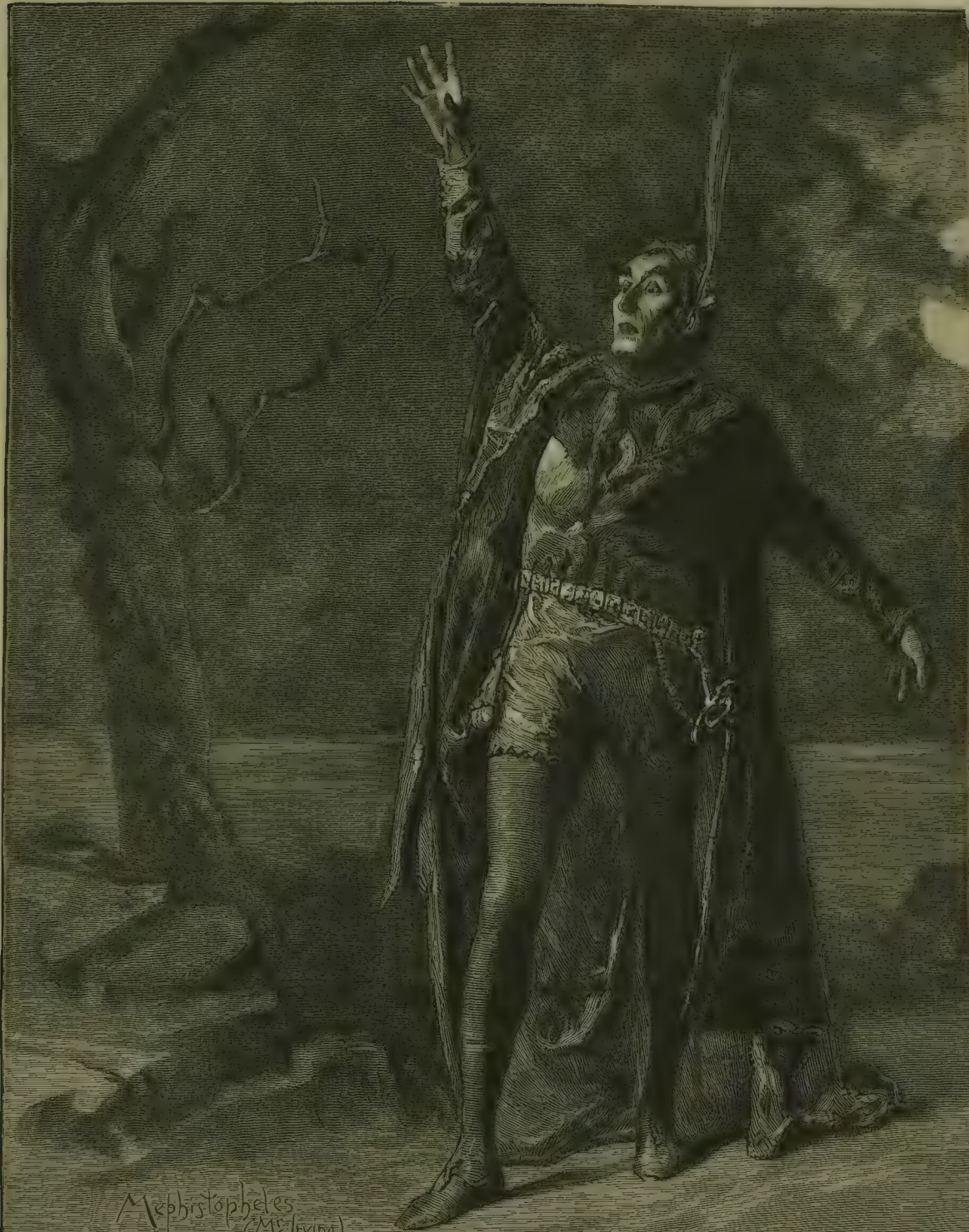
HON. A. H. J. WALSH—RADNORSHIRE.

Born 1859, eldest son of second Lord Ormathwaite; his mother was Lady Emily Somerset, daughter of seventh Duke of Beaufort; holds a commission in 1st Life Guards.



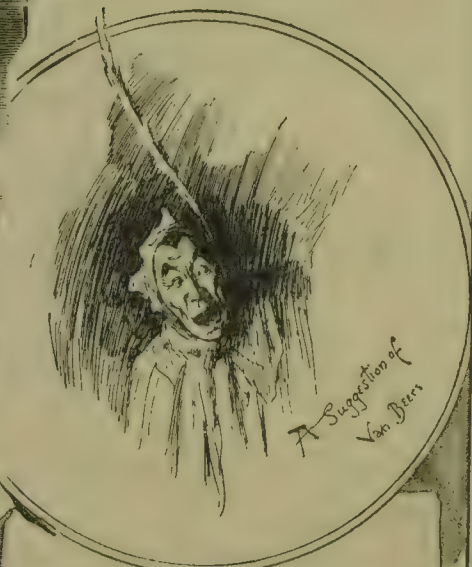
MR. J. T. AGG-GARDNER—CHELTENHAM.

Eldest son of late Mr. Agg-Gardner, of Hadley House, Gloucestershire; born 1846; educated at Harrow, and at Trinity College, Cambridge; called to the Bar, 1873; is a large brewer; Lord of the Manor of Cheltenham.



Mephistopheles
(Mr. Irving)
on the Brocken top.

Margaret.
Miss Ellen Terry

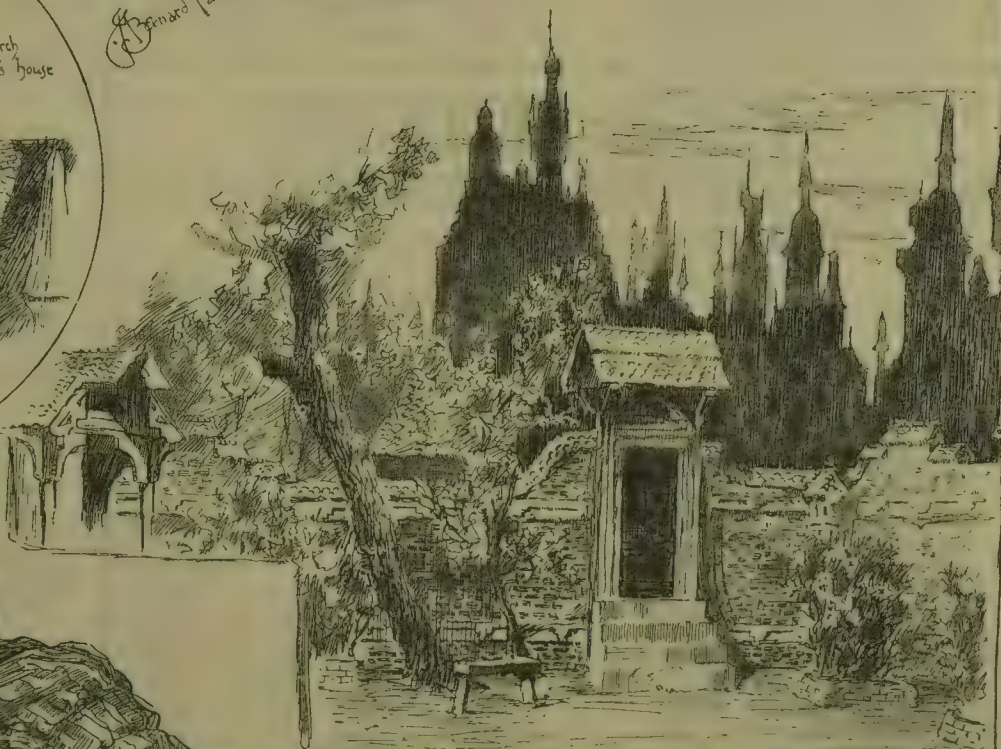


A Suggestion of
Van Deren



Garden Porch
of Margaret's house

Demarco Partridge fecit



Marthe's
Garden



Valentine. Mr. Geo. Alexander.

Faust:
Mr. B. Conray.



CITY ECHOES.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 20.

Though, to the time of writing, the Bank of England standard rate of discount is still 4 per cent, it is daily becoming increasingly evident that a reduction to 3 per cent is demanded without further delay. The working rate of discount has further declined to 2 per cent, and the discount houses have put their deposit rates down to 2 and 2½, rates which are in the usual relation to a 3 per cent standard, and not to 4 per cent. Stock Exchange securities have considerably improved under the influence of the increased cheapness of money. Consols have again got to a premium, and all kindred securities are correspondingly higher. Colonial government issues are kept back by the frequent additions to the supply, and to the prospect of further important borrowings during this year. The market for foreign government securities has, in several instances, improved, as the result of more confidence in some of the Continental markets, combined with the clearing away of some difficulties as regards two or three important descriptions. Home railways are once more depressed, the inclement weather giving rise to bad traffic statements. The dividends have not, so far, been below expectation. London and Chatham stock has been exceptionally depressed, upon the objections in the Brighton Company's report to the proposed union bill.

The American railway market has become flat on a reported renewal of disagreement between principal companies, and with them Grand Trunk stocks have suffered. On the other hand, Canadian Pacific stocks increase in public favour. The shares have been beyond 70, and the market appears to look for them to be in a short time permanently above 70. This view is based on the traffic experience week by week. Canadian Pacific 5 per cent bonds are now 103; and, as in good times Grand Trunk 5 per cent debenture stock has been about 120, it is expected that these bonds will steadily advance upon the present quotation. Another point of interest in this direction is the rise in the 5 per cent bonds of the New Brunswick Railway. But the price is only 92, with £2 10s. interest due on Feb. 1; while, on the authority of the *Canadian Gazette*, it is known that a contract has been let to connect this summer the New Brunswick system with the Canadian Pacific Railway at Montreal. Then Halifax will be, in point of time, as it is now as to mileage, the nearest to England; while in the Atlantic and Pacific there are to be placed the steamers most able to maintain this geographical supremacy. Hudson's Bay shares keep very firm, on many favourable conditions; and Canada North-West Land shares have further advanced; but, as the former are at a premium, and the latter at a discount, most interest is given to the latter.

In consequence of the large number and amount of applications for the recently-announced Argentine loan, the allot-

ment was on a small scale, but there can hardly be room for the complaints which one or two of the papers speak of. The remedy is easy, as purchases can be made in the market at a price but little above that of issue. Messrs. J. S. Morgan and Co. announce that the outstanding bonds of the loan made last year will be drawn for repayment at once.

The Bank of Ireland dividend is 10 per cent per annum, as compared with 12 for many previous half-years; but, under all the circumstances, this is a good yield, and the price of the company's stock is both better and steadier for the declaration. The publication of a balance-sheet has also had a good effect. The Provincial Bank of Ireland is also to pay 10, against 12, and the National Bank 10, as against 11 for thirteen previous half-years.

Further railway dividends are being announced. The Brighton Company is to pay 6½ per cent per annum, as compared with 7; the Great Eastern, 3½, against 3¼; the South-Eastern, 6½, against 6¼; and the Manchester and Sheffield, 3½, against 4.

The British and Foreign Marine Insurance dividend is again 27½ per cent for the year, and that of the Ocean Marine 7½ for the fourth consecutive year. The Reliance Marine dividend, which was last year advanced from 6½ to 7½, is now to be 10.

Owing to a loss, the International Bank of London dividend is reduced to 5 per cent, and £21,000 is taken from the reserve, leaving that fund at £95,000. T. S.

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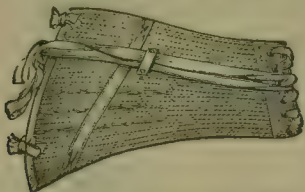
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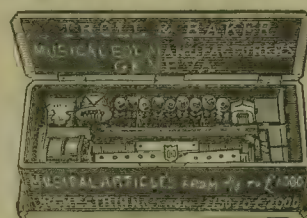
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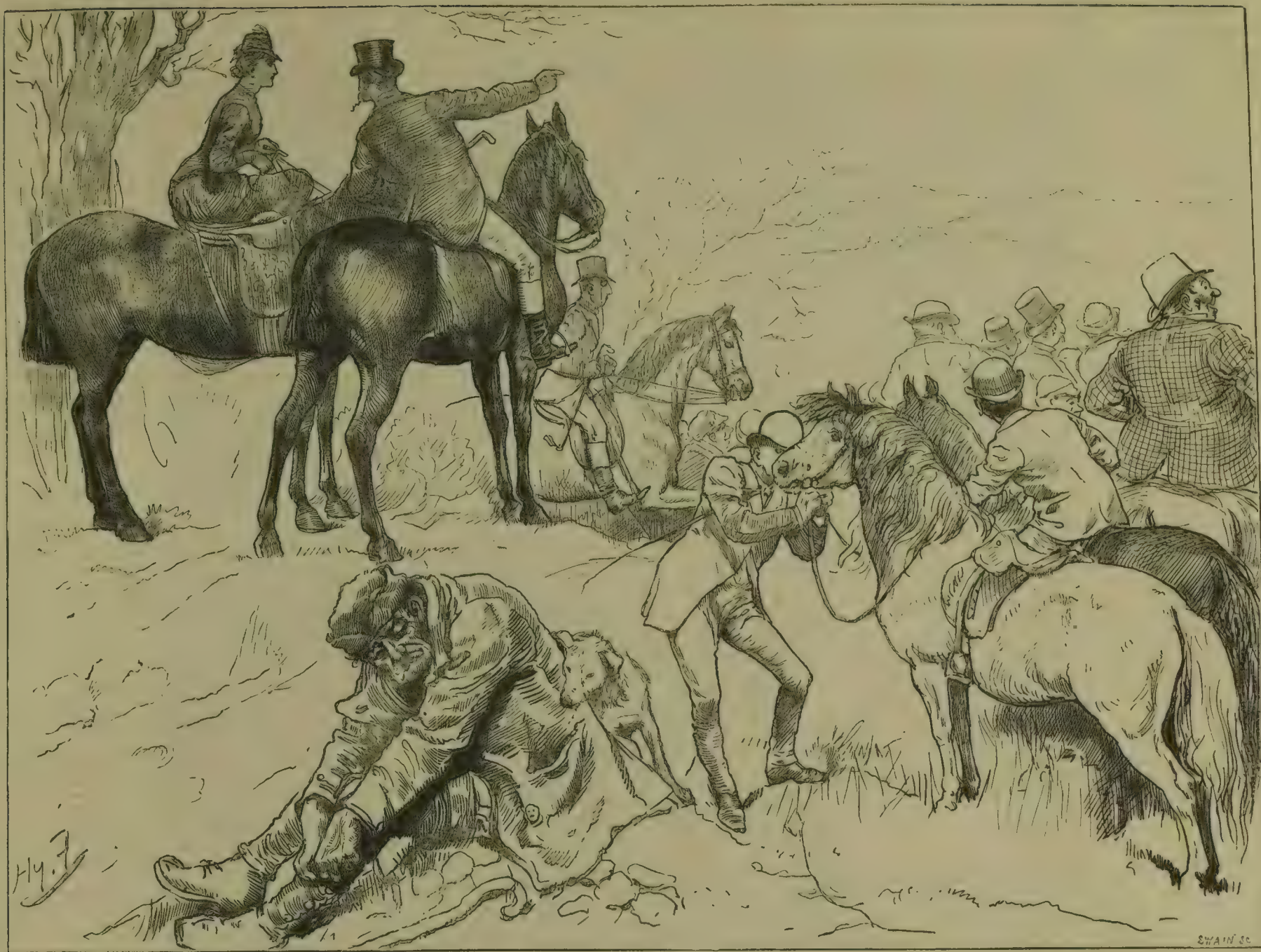
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AUTHOR OF "LOST SIR MASSINGBERD," "BY PROXY," "THE CANON'S WARD," &c.

CHAPTER VII.

THE START.

"If you please, Miss, Miss Melburn's compliments, and she sends you a riding-habit, which she hopes will fit you," were the first words that fell upon Miss Dart's ears when she awoke in the morning. It brought home to her, with painful distinctness, all the events of the preceding day, which sleep had blotted out; it was not without a sharp twinge of trepidation that she remembered the unaccustomed thing she had promised to do to oblige the Squire. She gazed at her ordinary and familiar dress with the same sort of yearning with which Joan of Arc must have surveyed the armour which she was forbidden to don.

"If you please, Miss," continued the maid, who was good-natured, simple, and, from deficiency of culture, had not the usual contempt of her class for governesses, "if you will ring the bell when you are ready for it, I will come and help you on with it."

This offer Miss Dart accepted with effusion. The garment alarmed her; the getting into it seemed to her like returning to long clothes. The Abigail not only performed her promise, but, when the habit was on, told her how Miss Mary was accustomed to hold it, so as to permit of pedestrianism. After one or two essays she looked much less like a swan on dry land than I have seen some young ladies similarly accoutred. As the Major had hinted, it was scarcely possible, indeed, for Elizabeth Dart to look awkward; she had too much good sense. Even the going down-stairs to the breakfast-room was effected without mishap. She found the three gentlemen alone together, arrayed in sporting costume, with knee-breeches and top-boots, an attire she had never seen out of a circus; her own apparel, being familiar to their eye, fortunately courted no attention.

"I see you have screwed your courage to the sticking place, Miss Dart," was all the allusion the Squire made to it, as he looked up for a moment from his morning's letters.

"I hope it will prove so," she answered, laughingly; but the jest fell apparently upon deaf ears.

"Unless as a matter of practice," murmured the Major, under cover of a dropping fire of envelope flap and newspaper cutting, "you will find it useless to make jokes in this house. We're a very serious family."

The observation, so far as it suggested that the miscarriage of her little pleasantry imputed dulness to her employer, was unwelcome to her; but, being human, she could not but be grateful to the person who had understood it.

"It was unbecoming in me to joke at all," she answered, gravely.

"Of course," he answered, mockingly. "We should revere the Squire and his relations and always keep our proper stations."

"I wish you would not make such a noise with that paper, Jefferson," exclaimed Mr. Melburn, irritably; "it sets my teeth on edge."

"That's only natural, since it's the Tory organ," returned the Major, coolly.

"I hope Miss Mary is not, after all, going to give us the slip," observed Mr. Winthrop, pulling out his watch.

"The slip? Why should she give us the slip?" inquired the Squire, frowning.

"A very appropriate metaphor for a coursing meeting," put in the Major, quickly. "So ho!" (imitating the cry of the sportsman who sees a hare sitting) "here comes the pretty puss herself."

The compliment, though well deserved, for a prettier creature than Miss Mary looked in her riding dress it would have been hard to imagine, did not seem to be appreciated by its object. Without so much as acknowledging the Major's presence, or that of Mr. Winthrop, who got up to greet her, she went straight up to the governess and held out her hand.

"I owe you an apology, Miss Dart, for being so late and lazy as to have suffered you to come down by yourself. I hope," she added, in a lower tone, and glancing at the other's habit, "that you have had no difficulties; if you had, however, you have surmounted them famously."

She went up to her father, and, lifting her comely head on one side, received upon her cheek the hasty smear which formed the paternal kiss.

To Mr. Winthrop, waiting patiently glass in eye, she gave her hand, but very coldly, and when he retained it somewhat beyond the usual limits, she utilised the interval to nod to her half-brother, ere sitting down before the tea-urn.

This little by-play was a revelation to Miss Dart. If Miss Mary had been a less skilful actress the governess would have known last night what, as matters were, she had been by no means convinced of, that Mr. Winthrop's attentions were unwelcome to the young lady, and that she had made her new friend's ignorance of horsemanship the excuse for evading his companionship at the coursing meeting. But the other had played her part so naturally that Miss Dart had supposed it quite possible that she had been standing in the way of her wishes, as it was evident she had been in those of the Squire.

This new knowledge melted her heart towards her pupil, since it showed that on her part the girl had something to forgive. Her coldness of the previous night was accounted for, if not excused. So thoroughly had Miss Dart's indignation evaporated that there was none left to take what would have now seemed to have been its proper direction—namely, that of the Major, to whose interference the unpleasantly which had taken place was clearly due. He, at least, could scarcely have been ignorant of his sister's feelings in the matter; but men, reasoned the governess—no, not reasoned, said to herself—think so little of these things; they are always slightly

inclined to be selfish; and since her going to the coursing meeting would add to his own pleasure—

"I do believe the air of our downs has done you good already, Miss Dart," observed Mary, breaking in on these reflections.

Either it or something else had certainly given the governess a very high colour, which the observation considerably intensified.

"I am sure that it is very wholesome," she stammered, feebly.

"I wish we could bottle it, and sell it in London," said the Squire, regretfully.

"For sleeping draughts," murmured the Major, drily.

"Yes," assented Mr. Winthrop; "the downs' air is capital for that—especially after coursing. It is the most admirable sport in the world, Miss Dart, as Miss Melburn here will tell you."

"I am sure she will think it a very pretty sight," said Miss Mary, indifferently.

"There is no objection to it either," continued Mr. Winthrop, volubly, "such as women—I mean ladies—make to pigeon-shooting; there is no cruelty to animals, and so on: a most innocent pleasure, I do assure you. Ask anyone who has ever tried it."

"The hare, for example," observed the Major.

In spite of her efforts, Miss Dart could not restrain a smile. It was all very well for the Major, who, under cover of his great blonde moustache, retained the gravity of a Judge; but it was very wrong of him, and hard on her. Yet, somehow, she could not be so angry with him as she wanted to be. The Squire, however, was under no such restraint.

"Well, Sir, and what of that?" he said, turning sharply on his son. "Has not man been given the fruits of the earth—I mean the beasts of the fields—for his sustenance and enjoyment?"

"Just so," said Mr. Winthrop, assentingly; "and as everybody knows, there is no hare so tender as a coursed hare."

It was no doubt by accident, but here the Major's elbow, trembling with suppressed merriment, touched that of his fair neighbour. Between her sense of humour and her sense of what was becoming, poor Miss Dart could scarcely permit herself to breathe. Fortunately, at that moment the crunch of horses' hoofs upon the gravel drew general attention to the windows, through which could be seen the grooms and helpers leading the five horses, two of which, of course, had side saddles.

"That is your nag, Miss Dart—old Seaman," said the Squire, regarding the animals critically through his double eyeglass; then he threw up a window and began talking to the groom about some animal not present, who had been "fired," in such a tender, regretful voice that one would have thought he had been speaking of one of his wheat-ricks.

"Which horse did your father say was mine?" inquired the governess of Miss Mary, in tones which she in vain endeavoured to render indifferent.

"The brown one. You must not mind his being large; he is very docile."

"That is what is said of elephants, Mary," said the Major, remonstratingly.

"I wish it was an elephant," thought poor Miss Dart to herself, "then it would have a howdah on it instead of that thing." And, indeed, it cannot be denied that to a neophyte a side-saddle is not a symbol of security.

Miss Mary had already assured her friend that her mother was too ill to see her that morning till after her return, but she herself went to take leave of her. There were certain packets containing lunch to be distributed to each member of the party, and the gentlemen had to provide themselves with cigars; so that it was twenty minutes or so before they were all assembled on the carriage-drive in front of the house and ready for the start.

Mr. Winthrop stepped briskly forward to assist Miss Mary to her horse, but losing his eyeglass in the attempt, as usual, and fumbling to find it, she beckoned in the meantime to the groom, who, with his hand under her foot, landed her deftly in her seat on the instant. The Major stood in waiting to render the same service to Miss Dart, but perceiving the piteous look she cast from him to her gigantic steed—like a landsman who sees a mere rope thrown out to him to help him up a ship's side—led the animal at once to an old mounting-stone, which, like some altar erected to the equine race, stood on one side of the entrance-steps, and therefrom she transferred herself to the saddle without difficulty. For this thoughtful attention she felt truly grateful, and smiled her thanks on him, while he showed her how to hold her whip and reins.

"The pommel will be a great temptation, but you must avoid it," he said, gravely. "Riding on horseback is like life itself; you must depend on yourself, and not on any extraneous aids."

"But if he begins to trot?" suggested poor Miss Dart, feeling as if she was on a mountain of the volcanic sort, the least movement of which would be fatal.

"He never trots, it shakes his fat sides too much," was the encouraging rejoinder; "and when he canters it is like a rocking-chair—danger there is none. But be assured I shall never leave your side till you have lost all fear of it."

As he turned to mount his own champing and impatient steed, he raised his eyes to an upper window and lifted his hat, while at the same time a demure look, almost mocking by contrast with that which he had just been wearing, came over his features. Miss Dart followed his gaze, and beheld Mrs. Melburn, in a morning gown, looking fixedly at her. On her face, too, was an expression she could not understand. It was one of pain and deep distress. Upon seeing that she was observed, however, she bowed and waved her hand with cold politeness. Before the governess could return her salute, the cortège began to move, and with it the mountain on which she sat. She had read, of course, of the motion of the earth, and had accepted it with other scientific theories, but it was her first experience of the actual fact.

CHAPTER VIII.

COURSING.

The coursing meetings of to-day wear a strong resemblance to those of the race-course. The ratio in which sport and gain were wont to be mixed has become inverted, the strife is less for honour than for rewards; even the reward is not what it was, but takes the form of hard cash; and over "the pleasant fields and farms," where the "fine old English gentleman" was wont to follow his favourite pastime, are now everywhere—mingled with the other cloven hoof—the footprints of the members of the betting ring. But even still, in out-of-the-way spots upon the windy hills, or in sheltered hollows of the down lands, there are meetings of the old kind, attended by squires and farmers only, and sometimes by fair equestrians.

The downs—which, save for a few high-placed fir-clumps, or a patch of furze taller than common, are free from all obstruction to the view—seem made for such a sport. The road to Clapper's Down was up-hill all the way—for which the governess thanked her stars, since it necessitated a foot-pace; they climbed and climbed up the deep chalk road, till at last they reached the summit of a great green plateau, which, unadorned itself by Nature's hand, looked down upon the varied beauties of three counties—hamlets, clustered round their grey-towered churches; homesteads, with their compact farmyards and forests of ricks about them; the dull blue river, glinting coldly through the as yet unclothed trees, and winding along the low meadowlands, till it hid itself in some ancient town; here and there, far off, the smoke of a railway train, but not the train itself; nothing looked in motion; for the distance lent rest as well as enchantment to the view. The many-horsed waggons upon the open road seemed stationary, as also the nearer flocks of sheep to the right hand and to the left, though the clear notes of their bells told a different tale.

Suddenly, in the hollow of the hill, the party from the Hall came upon a goodly sight: a body of some fifty men on horseback, preceded by a vanguard of a dozen more scattered at some distance apart, like skirmishers—the voluntary beaters for the game.

"I see a red coat!" exclaimed Miss Dart, whom the unaccustomed air, and the novelty of the ride and of all the objects about her, had greatly excited: since Seaman still plodded soberly on his way, her apprehensions had vanished, and enjoyment had taken their place. "I thought that only fox-hunters wore red coats."

"Quite right," said the Major, who was riding, as he had promised, at her bridle-rein; "that is the judge of the coursing; and between the two parties of horsemen in the turnip-field, you see another man in red on foot—that is the slipper. He holds the couple of greyhounds that are next to run in his leash, within which is a string—See, though we are a little late, we are yet in time—like tardy arrivals at a dinner party—for the first course. They have found a hare. Here she comes down the hill, straight for that fir plantation just below us. Now the dogs have the sight, look how they strain, and drag the slipper with them!"

Through the clear air was heard the judge's mandate, "Go"; and the greyhounds, fawn and white, the very types of speed and grace, bound forward simultaneously, taking three yards of ground for poor puss's two. There is no doubt that they will soon come up with her; but as to catching her—see how she threw them out by that sharp turn, and scudded away up the hill—that is a very different matter. Down hill, indeed, which is the way she must take, however indirectly, she has no chance; the dogs recover their lost ground, gain on her, overtake her, arch their long backs in readiness to spring, when, with another and still sharper turn, like that of the wrist of a swordsman, she flies away again with her ears laid level with her back and leaves her baffled foes thirty yards behind her. It is a species of circular

sailing, which sooner or later must tire puss out; but, in the meanwhile, she approaches nearer and nearer to the plantation which is her sanctuary from the jaws of death. The greyhounds appear to be aware of this, and this time they come up with her, turn her, force her down hill, as it were, before her time; the fawn dog, who is leading, with outstretched neck makes a fierce grab at her, and for his pains gets a mouthful of fur, but puss herself is through the fence and safe; not without hopes of dewy mornings yet to come next spring, and hours of snoozing in her cozy form through wintry noons.

"Confound the beast!" exclaimed the Major, vehemently.

"What!" cried Miss Dart, with indignation—her heart had been beating throughout the whole proceeding almost as fast as the hare's—"you don't mean to say you are sorry she has escaped?"

"Oh, no, no, no," he answered, emphatically; then, after a moment's hesitation, he added, "I am afraid I was not thinking of poor puss at all; the white dog belongs to us, you see, and has lost the course."

"But neither of them caught the hare," she urged.

"Quite true; but the fawn dog turned her twice to the other's once, and stuck to her all along, though he tripped at last."

Then he explained to her how "a turn" is when the hare swerves from her course, and "a wrench" when she swerves still more sharply from it, and that "a trip" is when a dog seizes the hare and fails to kill it.

She listened with an interest that amazed him; the spectacle of a female nature easily roused to enthusiasm and greedy for things new and strange was a novelty to him, and encouraged him to pursue a topic which, truth to say, he cared little about.

"The race is by no means to the swift in these matters," he continued, smiling. "The judge, yonder, has to take all the circumstances of the case into account: whether the hare bends round towards one dog or the other; or whether one fails to catch sight of pussy at the first glance, and therefore has a bad start. Nothing escapes his consideration."

"That is not so in human life," observed Miss Dart, gravely.

"True; there is none to handicap us properly in the struggle for existence." He looked at her very curiously for a moment, but she did not observe it; her gaze was fixed upon the scene before her; it seemed as though she had made the reflection to herself without expectation of any rejoinder; perhaps the form in which he had couched his reply had been unintelligible to her, but her inattention piqued him.

"I suppose, Miss Dart, you consider that, being a soldier, I am incapable of philosophic reflections, or even of sympathy."

"No, Major Melburn, certainly not *that*," she answered, hurriedly, and with a faint flush. "It did strike me, however, that we must needs regard the matter you spoke of from very different standpoints. To you, if the world does not seem the best possible place of all worlds, it nevertheless shows its sunny side. It must strike you that the doctrine of compensation—of redressing the balance—is a somewhat superfluous theory; while to me—well, I don't complain; but my lines have fallen in less pleasant places."

"And yet it is said," he answered, in low tones, "that 'lightly comes the world to those who are cast in gentle mould.'"

"I am afraid I can take very little comfort from that circumstance, even if it were fact," she answered, smiling, but with a certain severity too. "I am not made of sugar-plums, I do assure you."

"I never supposed you were," he answered, gently. "I know many young ladies who are composed of that material, and you are not in the least like them. . . . This is a pretty sight, is it not?"

They had now almost joined the company upon the opposite hill. There had been another course, and puss had again reached the plantation in safety, round which, "though lost to sight to memory dear," her baffled pursuers were vainly straining their keen eyes for her. The dogs that had not yet run were standing about in pairs, clothed (as if they had been *Italian* greyhounds) in parti-coloured garments, with only their legs and heads exposed to view, like so many miniature race-horses. Upon glossy hunters, with arching heads and champing mouths, or upon stout, sturdy cobs, rode the gentry and yeomen of Downshire—a mounted troop such as no other land could probably furnish, with here and there a grotesque exception, such as some case of obesity upon a Shetland pony, or a more independent than wealthy sportsman perched on the tottering hind legs of a Jerusalem pony. There were also half a dozen of dear John Leech's little boys upon the backs of infinitesimal ponies, all mane and tail. Here, too, rode the stewards of the meeting, with red and white ribbons at their button-holes, and with choice expressions in their mouths for folk who would ride over the untried ground, and start the hare when there were no dogs to follow her; curious it was to mark the nice gradations of treatment to which these trespassers were subjected; how the transgressing Squire was expostulated with, and the erring yeoman sworn at, and the simple smock-frocked pedestrian fairly horsewhipped back into his proper place. Besides these, there were the camp-followers—heterogeneous vehicles, which could be only described, with charity, generically as "four-wheelers"; a plague of gigs, numerous as the flies of Egypt, and of every colour in the rainbow; dog-carts, literally dog-carts, which had carried the various candidates for the stakes from their distant kennels, or from railway stations; and a covered cart, ordinarily used by some village carrier, but filled on this occasion with creature comforts, and resembling a peripatetic public-house. The spectacle would have been interesting and exciting to almost anyone, but to Elizabeth Dart it was entrancing, for it was a new page of human nature.

"So ho!" cries a sharp-eyed farmer; "there she lies under the grey grass yonder." How close she sits, well knowing what all this rout has come about, and determined not to stir a leg till she is whipped up. Fatal mistake, puss, surely, to lose the precious moments while thy canine enemies are scores of yards away, and the slipper does not even know of thy existence! This time it is resolved that all escape to the plantation should be cut off. The horsemen ride off to left and right and make a lane, through which she must needs run to the downs. Push forward, boys, upon your pigmy steeds to the front; for you, too, will need all the start you can get.

Up comes the red judge upon a fresh horse, and the red slipper (poor fellow!), on the same pair of feet; some good soul, however, presently lends him a horse to mount the hill. There is a crack of a hunting-whip, and off starts a long-legged hare straight for the down land—away go the fleet dogs, and away the regiment of miscellaneous cavalry, the elephantine Seaman and his fair burden, to whom he imparts the equable motion of a rocking-horse, among them, and away the four-wheels, and the gigs, and the peripatetic public-house. These last work up the least perpendicular hill, which happens to be ploughed land, like so many teams.

The stout hare holds her own; and when the horsemen,

who have been hanging on the steep like flies on a window-pane, reach the summit, the dogs and she are a mile away.

Ladies who ride to hounds are, as a rule, no more enthusiastic than are male sportsmen; they are diffuse about dogs and horses and the details of the chase, but they feel little excitement in it save of the physical kind; they enjoy the excursion but feel nothing of the poetry of motion it affords, beside which that of the ball-room sinks into insignificance. With Elizabeth Dart it was different, she seemed to be carried out of herself into another world; the rush of the wind, the beat of her horse's feet upon the springy turf, was music to her; for the moment she experienced supreme enjoyment, and her face showed it.

"It is like champagne, is it not?" exclaimed the Major, as he galloped by her side.

"I don't know," she answered, smiling; "I never tasted champagne."

The Major stared at her in undisguised amazement, a woman who had never tasted champagne was a phenomenon to him—nay, an anomaly. A child who had never tasted sugar would have astonished him less, though to be sure, he knew little about children. In a general way, simplicity had no charms for him; but in this case it had a certain piquancy. He had the sense to admire the frankness of a reply which was also a confession; for how poor he reflected must have been the surroundings, and how humble the bringing up of one who had attained maturity, without an experience so ordinary and matter of course!

At this moment a circumstance occurred which rather disenchanted our heroine, with respect to coursing: the hare, which had been nearing the sanctuary—a fir-grove—in the usual manner, in one of her turns—not good enough, alas! to deserve another—got caught in the air by one of the dogs, and uttered a horrible cry of torture. Miss Dart's hands dropped the reins and flew up to her ears.

"How can you be so rash!" cried the Major. "If I had not been beside you"—for his hand had seized her bridle at once—"you might have broken your neck!"

His apprehensions were probably exaggerated, since Seaman was an animal as little given to stumbling as to running away; but she could not but acknowledge his solicitude.

"I did not know our pleasure was to be purchased at such a price," she answered. Her pupil's face, too, though she must have been used to such incidents, wore a look of distress.

"Cried like a child, didn't she, Miss Mary?" observed Mr. Winthrop, with the air of one who hits on an appropriate metaphor. Her eyes spoke for her, but the girl made no reply; a shudder ran through her frame. Perhaps she was not thinking solely of the poor hare.

"It was a shocking sight," she murmured.

"It is, at all events, what all hares must come to unless they're shot," he answered; and then added, with some irritation, "I think, too, that you might have remembered that it was my dog."

"That disposes of the tie, does it not?" exclaimed the Squire, riding up. "Mary, you should congratulate Winthrop."

"I am glad that Mr. Winthrop has won the stakes," she answered, mechanically. Then, turning to the governess, she exclaimed, "I am sure I ought to congratulate you too, Miss Dart. How capitally you have got on with Seaman."

"And kept on," put in Mr. Winthrop. "That's rather good, Jefferson, eh?" and he prodded his friend humorously with the crop of his whip.

"I think it very good," replied the Major; "that is," he added, dropping his voice so that Miss Dart alone could hear, "for you."

"We must drink Winthrop's health at dinner to-night," exclaimed Mr. Melburn, exultingly.

"Yes, and in champagne," said the Major.

The Squire made a wry face; there were reasons why he was inclined to be hospitable to his guest, but at the same time there are limits to hospitality.

As they turned their horses homeward, "Did you see how the Governor's face fell, Miss Dart," asked the Major, "when I suggested his giving us champagne? He is uncommonly chary of his fizz."

"Then I think it was very wrong of you to suggest it," she answered, with severity, for she felt that it was also very wrong of him to make her the recipient of such information. "If you knew that it would annoy your father, why did you do it?"

"Well, if you really wish to know the reason," he answered, with a smile, "it was on your account; since you told me just now that you had never tasted champagne, I was determined that you should have an early opportunity of doing so."

"Really, Major Melburn, you must have a poor opinion of me," she answered, stiffly, "to suppose that I entertain any such ambition. I have no more curiosity in the way of wine than of tobacco."

"Well, I have seen some very distinguished young women, with handles to their names, too, for whom even tobacco has had charms."

"I neither envy them, their taste, nor their handles to their names," was the chilling rejoinder.

"Now don't be angry with me," said the Major, penitently. "I know you are quite another and very superior sort of person to them, but you did say the other evening—I mean yesterday, but somehow or other I seem to have known you so much longer—that you thought it was a good thing to have some experience of everything, big and little, so long as it was not harmful, and I thought that even champagne was not too small a thing to be left out of the category. I am awfully sorry if I have offended you."

"You have not offended me, Major Melburn."

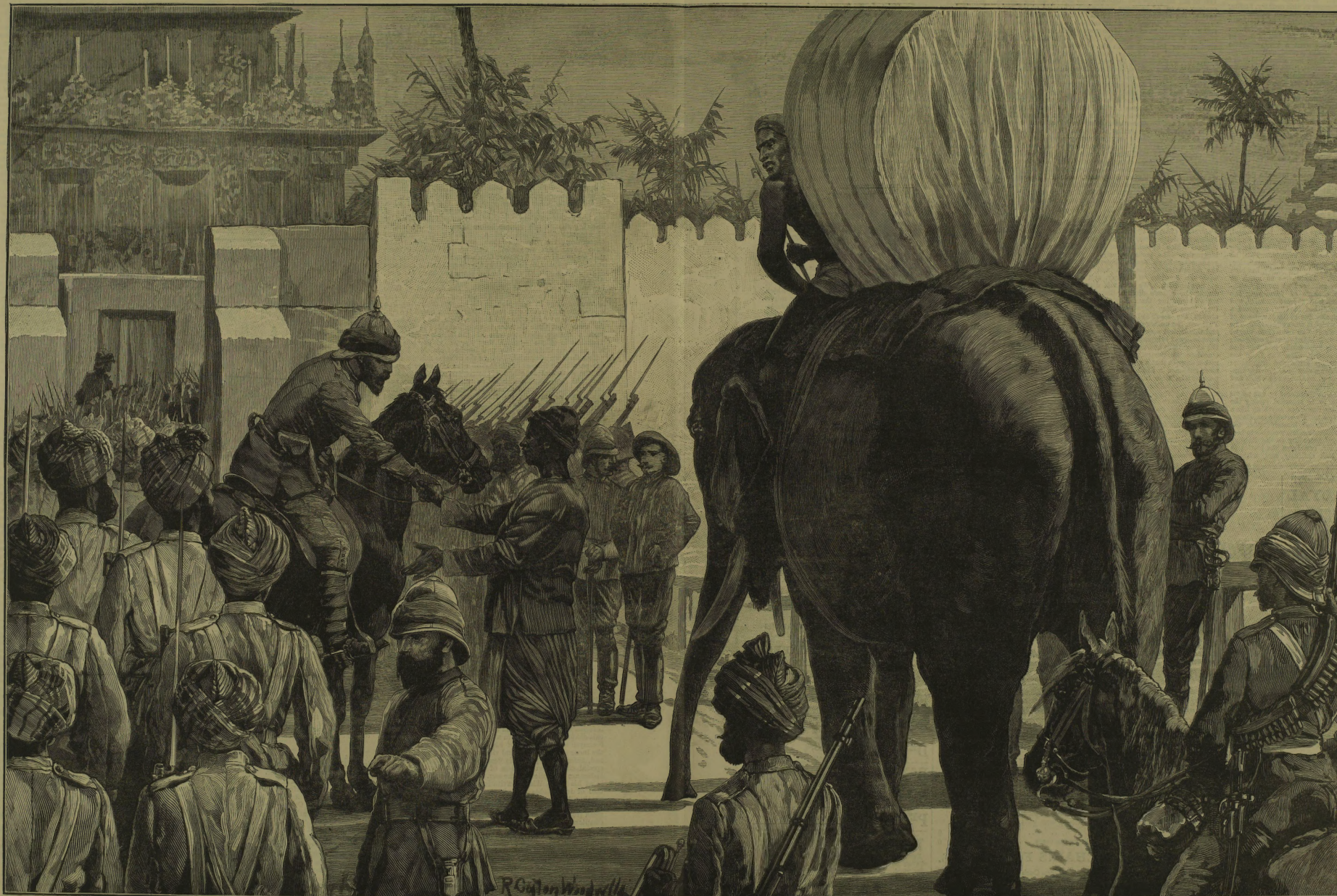
"Nay, but it is clear I have," he answered, comically. "I am not like Winthrop, yonder, who never knows when he has put his foot in it; at all events, be so good as to say you forgive me."

"Very well, Major Melburn, I forgive you."

She looked up and noticed Miss Mary's eyes regarding her with the same strange expression she had noticed in Mrs. Melburn's face when she had started from the hall that morning. There was pity in it as well as pain, she felt, but its meaning, though her wits were keen to mark the thoughts of others, was hidden from her. The physiognomists may boast as they please, but the human countenance is not, after all, so easy to translate as a Greek play with a crib.

(To be continued.)

The Japanese have made their arrangements for bringing into use the Roman alphabet. From the twenty-six letters they will omit l, q, v, and x. Heretofore the Chinese ideographs have been employed in writing on serious subjects, and the Japanese syllabary of forty-eight sounds for phonetic transliteration, for trivial correspondence, story-books, and such literature as uneducated women and children make use of. Already the members of the Roma-ji-Kai have begun to print a newspaper; prominent journals are devoting a column a day to matter printed in Roman letters; and dictionaries, text-books, native literature, and the classic texts are thus to be set forth.



THE BURMAH EXPEDITION: ENTRY OF THE BRITISH TROOPS INTO MANDALAY.

FROM A SKETCH BY CAPTAIN HICKSON, R.E.

ART BOOKS.

There is ample room among our numerous handbooks for Mr. S. T. H. Parkes' *Short Study of Gothic Architecture* (Winsor and Newton), offering, as it does, in a popular form a brief account of the rise of this style in the eleventh century until its decline in the sixteenth. Mr. Parkes limits himself to the history of Gothic architecture in this country, finding indications of its approach even in the Norman period prior to the development of the chief characteristic of true Gothic—the pointed arch. He holds that the distinctive Anglo-Norman architecture, although it may have held its own in parts of the country until about 1175, underwent a very complete revolution when the Cistercian monks erected, under foreign influence or by foreign workmen, those marvellous abbeys of which the ruins of Jervaulx, Fountains, Rievaulx, and many others attest the beauty. Hugh of Lincoln is the one great name which is associated with some of our finest cathedral work; but it is not clear whether he personally designed or superintended the buildings attributed to him, or whether his zeal for art and religion stimulated the efforts of others. The supremacy of the true Gothic, with its pointed arch, was, it may be remarked, almost unquestioned after the death of Richard I.—a point from which philosophers of history may draw their own conclusions—and the Early English style reached its fullest development under Edward I. After a separate existence of about one hundred years (1190–1290), the period of Decorated English may be taken to cover the interval between Edward I. and Richard II. (1290–1390), whilst the latest phase of English Gothic art—the Perpendicular—lasted to the time of Edward VI. (1390–1550), when the need for church building had temporarily ceased, and Tudor architecture, devoted chiefly to noble mansions and country houses, effaced the last traces of Gothic architecture in England.

When Montaigne, Rabelais, and Cervantes have found new interpreters, and even the Abbé Prevost appeals for English approval, it would be strange if Lesage escaped. It is, indeed, somewhat remarkable that we have, or think we have, so intimate an acquaintance with his masterpiece, "Gil Blas," considering the few translations which have been attempted. This, no doubt, is in a measure due to the popularity of the translation, which, although published anonymously (in 1755), has been generally attributed to Smollett. There was so much in common in the genius of the two authors that mere journeymen must have felt that the chances of furnishing the public with a more attractive work were at least doubtful, and although Smart's translation, published in 1807, acquired a considerable vogue, it was principally due to the excellence of the copperplate engravings with which it was embellished. The new translation of *Gil Blas*, by Mr. H. Van Laun (Edinburgh: William Paterson), finds therefore a field but scantily occupied; and he has availed himself of his opportunity in a way that should meet with considerable success. Mr. Van Laun has already shown himself a competent critic and translator; but he has seldom had so favourable a chance of proving himself a master of those racy idioms of our language which find their counterpart in the pages of Lesage. Popular taste, which condoned crudities of expression when rendered by one whose original works have since come to be regarded among the English Classics, would not tolerate, nowadays, anything like a literal rendering of the original by a merely erudite translator. Mr. Van Laun has, consequently, found himself under the necessity of skirting difficulties which Smollett was able to face openly. The result will be judged according to the English reader's taste; but we must do Mr. Van Laun the justice to say that he has fulfilled his task skilfully, and, without

misrepresenting the intentions of Lesage, he has softened many of his remarks and innuendoes, in accordance with our more modern views. What we have said of the text applies equally to the illustrations. Those of the present edition, designed and etched by M. Lalauze, are charming and full of talent; but they appear to us as wholly out of tune with the text as the language and habits of the end of the nineteenth century are out of harmony with what prevailed at the early part of the eighteenth. "Gil Blas" is a classical work, or it is nothing. M. Lalauze is a "romantic" of the newest school, and his suggestions of the adventures which befel the young student of Salamanca, and the Señor of Santillana, fail to awaken our interest as do the sketches, often imperfect or exaggerated, of Thomas Stothard, who, by the force of sympathy, was attracted by both Smollett and Lesage. The gulf which separated the artist from his authors, and illustrated both in the fullest sense of the word, was wide enough in point of time; but time and custom had moved but slowly, and he could find in the life around him episodes which might have found a place in the lives of Gil Blas or of Peregrine Pickle. But M. Lalauze has had only his imagination to guide him; and, however much we may admire his etchings as works of art, we cannot admit that he has allowed himself to be inspired by the genius of Lesage. Mr. Van Laun prefixes to his translation a very interesting *résumé* of the controversy which, even until of quite recent years, raged round the originality of "Gil Blas" as a work of purely French origin. It was not only Spaniards, but American and French critics, who expressed a belief in an untraced Spanish manuscript of the sixteenth century, to which Lesage was indebted for his story; and it is interesting to find that one of Victor Hugo's earliest but unclaimed works was the preparation of a paper in defence of Lesage's authorship, read before the French Academy, in 1820, by Count F. De Neufchâteau.

The publication in a popular form of *Kay's Edinburgh Portraits* (London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co.), with Paterson's letterpress, is an excellent sign of the lively interest which Scotchmen and their friends take in local biography. The portraits, originally issued in 1842, some years after Kay's death, showed that he had dealt with the notoriety of his own and the preceding generation with the freedom of Gillray, and without the coarseness of Rowlandson. We are not disposed to admit without demur the editor's dictum that Paterson's biographies are more interesting than Kay's portraits. The latter, it is true, were often mere caricatures, whilst the former were always the result of laborious research; but Mr. James Paterson, the author of some twenty volumes on Scottish men and things, had somehow the knack of divesting himself too completely of sympathy with the subject he had in hand. To the antiquarian and genealogist the facts brought together to elucidate the portraits are of the highest value; but we rather suspect that a student of Scottish character would find more guidance in Kay's sketches and suggestions of personal peculiarities than in Paterson's erudite compilations. The list of notabilities brought within the compass of this work is both long and far-embracing; for Kay's earlier life must have brought him into contact with persons of all sorts and conditions. Born at Dalkeith, in 1742, John Kay had, after many hardships and vicissitudes, determined to follow his father's trade of a stonemason; but, in spite of an early developed power of drawing, he was at the age of fourteen apprenticed to a barber. After six years at Dalkeith, he came to Edinburgh in the same capacity, and worked seven years as a journeyman; and in 1771 had amassed

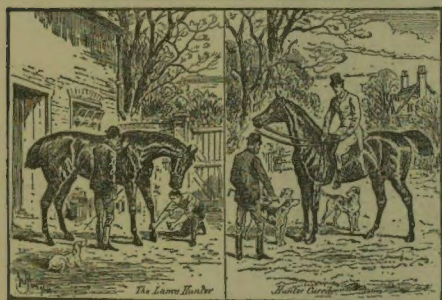
sufficient to purchase the freedom of the city from the Barber-Surgeon for £40. Although he found leisure to perfect himself in drawing and engraving, he did not give up his profession of a barber until 1785, when the unexpected success of some etchings in aquafortis induced him to take to art as a means of livelihood. From that time down to 1817 he continued to work hard as an engraver; and few persons who acquired any sort of notoriety in the Scottish capital escaped his notice. From that date he worked on in a more leisurely way until his death, in 1826, leaving a large quantity of published and unpublished sketches behind him, which, however, were not collected together until some years after the death of his widow. Among the more interesting persons noticed in these volumes may be mentioned General Sir Ralph Abercromby, Adam Smith, Mrs. Siddons, Lord Melville, Dr. William Robertson, the historian; Lunardi, the aeronaut; Deacon Brodie, the "man of two lives"; Admiral Lord Duncan; Tam Neil, "wright and precentor in the old church," according to his epitaph, but better known as a singer of humorous songs and quaint replies. Of this worthy, we may cite one of his best stories in these volumes. One day, being asked by a lady the reason why undertakers (of whom Tam was one) were so extravagant in their charges for coffins, he agreed for a glass of "Athole brose" to impart the secret, and told her, "It's just because they are ne'er brought back to be mended." There are other stories scattered through these two volumes, but few so good as the one quoted; nevertheless, we cannot doubt that "Kay's Edinburgh Portraits" will prove a very mine of wealth to those who are in search of traits of Scottish life and character, as seen a hundred years ago.

DRAWINGS BY SIGNAL.

At the Royal United Service Institution yesterday week, before a large and distinguished assemblage, a lecture upon the transmission of drawings by signal was given by Lieutenant Glen, of the 14th Middlesex (Inns of Court) Rifle Volunteers. Lieutenant Glen said he proposed to explain a system which he had devised and elaborated in conjunction with his brother officer, Mr. Willink, and with the assistance of the signallers of his corps. The object of the system was that one person who had the means of communicating with another by telegraph, heliograph, lamp, flag, or other modes of signalling, might enable the recipient of the signals to make a facsimile of any drawing which might be in the hands of the sender. The drawing might be of any kind, from a rough sketch or plan to a photographic likeness or a chromo-lithograph, and the accuracy with which the drawing was transmitted might be increased to any extent that the sender might think fit, while the scale on which the facsimile was drawn was at the discretion of the recipient. The lecturer described in detail his method of transmitting the drawings by signals, based on a system of small squares corresponding with perpendicular and horizontal lines of letters suggestive of certain well-known key maps, colours, shades, and curves being fully provided for. In conclusion, the lecturer pointed out that the system which he described was based upon the representation of the position of a point by its Cartesian co-ordinates approximately. Colonel Melville briefly explained a somewhat similar system which he had devised; and, after a brief discussion, the meeting passed a cordial vote of thanks to Lieutenant Glen for his discourse.

Mr. Hugh Cowie, Q.C., has been appointed secretary to the Royal Commission on Education.

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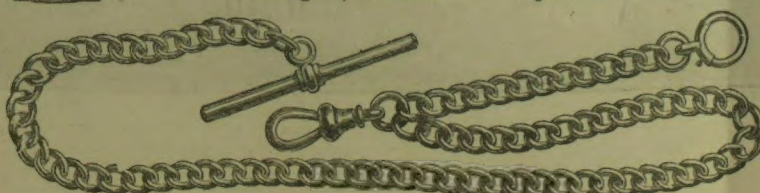
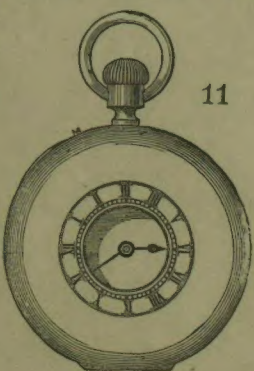
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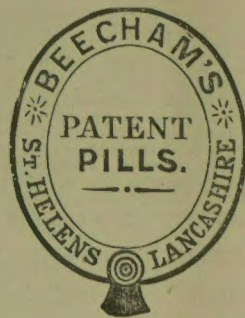
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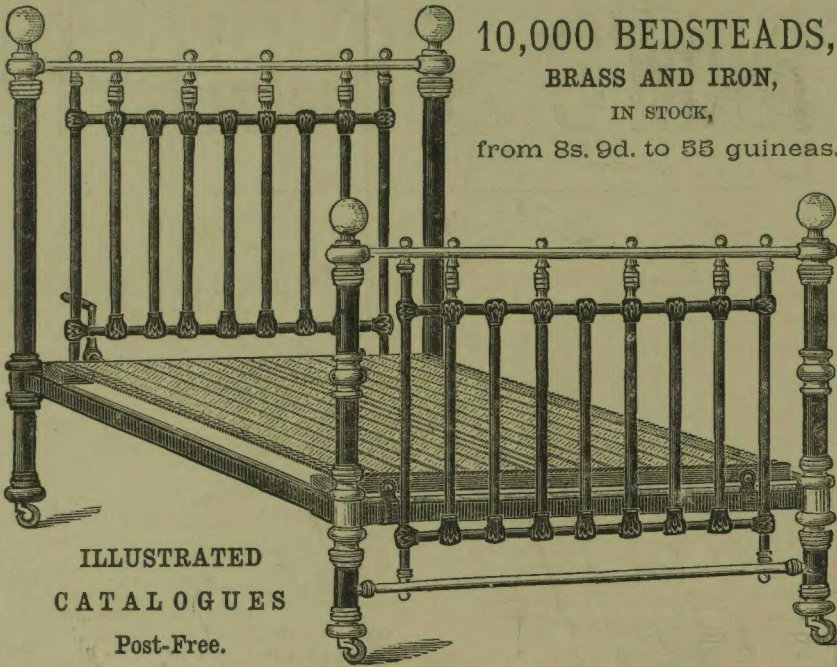
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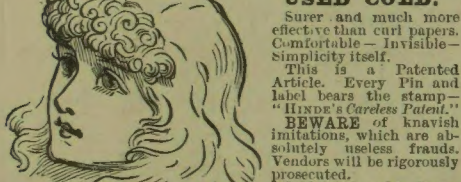
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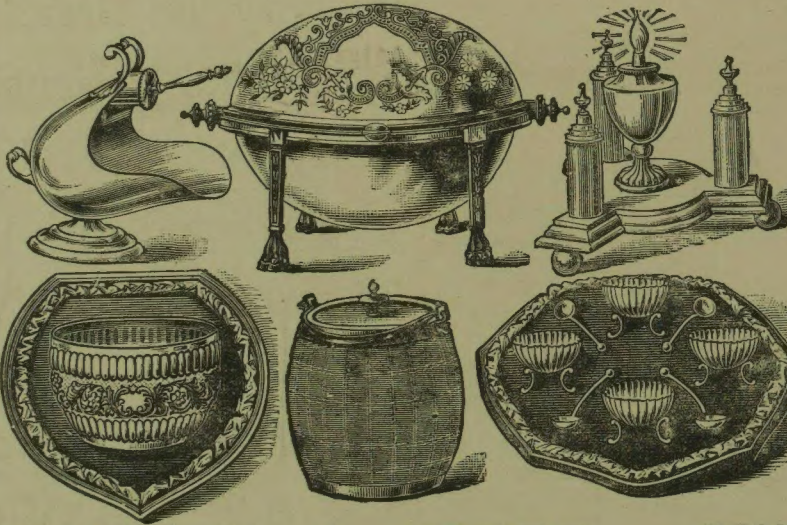
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